

# NEVADA

Silver&Blue

The magazine of the University of Nevada, Reno • Summer 2009



**Great Faculty**  
*Lead the Campus*

**Warren Lerude '61**  
Journalism Superstar

**DYNAMIC DUO**  
*Debateurs Make History*

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# NEVADA

Silver&Blue

The magazine of the University of Nevada, Reno

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## From the President

### 'Sharing a bench' with great Nevada faculty

Walter Van Tilburg Clark was one of the many great professors we have had on our campus over the years.

Clark, the acclaimed author of *The Ox-Bow Incident* and *The City of Trembling Leaves*, and a teacher of creative writing on our campus in the early 1950s and writer-in-residence in the 1960s, was known to have handwriting that was difficult to read.

His students would often stand in small groups after class, working together, probing his commentary for meaning, patiently excavating each of Clark's words with the care of archeologists.

The hard work was worth it, though. When the meaning of Clark's words was finally unearthed, his students would prize them. They were words that were reflective of the man, the teacher and his teachings: enormously insightful, thoughtfully encouraging, magnetically descriptive, with that special admonitory awareness that all great professors seem to naturally possess.

There are so many proud inheritors of the legacy of Clark and others like him on our campus today that they are far too numerous to list. Suffice it to say that our faculty of today are at the heart of what we do, for they carry with them our University's history and traditions. They are the continuous center of the enterprise, the people whose classroom lectures and research efforts and interactions with others are the touchstones that students remember years later, long after they have graduated.

When I think of our great faculty, and the example that they set for students, I invariably think of the life of a long-ago theologian, professor and university president, Mark Hopkins. Hopkins spent 36 years as president of Williams College in the 19th century. He was known as a masterful teacher, who welcomed dissenting opinion and heated discussion in his classroom. He illustrated his arguments with heaping helpings of diagrams and models, and was an adventuresome thinker. A former student from Williams, President James A. Garfield, once said of Hopkins' influence, "Give me a log cabin in the center of the state of Ohio, with one room in it, and a bench with Mark Hopkins on one end of it and me on the other, and that would be a good enough college for me."

Hopkins taught all of his students to think critically and independently. But perhaps more importantly, he also showed them a path to a fruitful, productive and satisfying life. Great faculty embody the Hopkins exemplar and engage everyone around them. Through their actions, they create a culture that often breathes new life into a campus, one that, in the words of the late Bart Giamatti, is always "mindful of potential, craving of realization."

During our Commencement ceremony on May 16, our campus took an important step when it honored the top K-12 teachers from all of Nevada's 17 counties with the President's Medal. The idea for the presentation came after we had asked our students, "Who inspired you to succeed in college?" Their overwhelming responses made it clear that at one point or another in their academic careers, they had probably "shared a bench" with their version of Mark Hopkins or Walter Van Tilburg Clark, and their lives were never again the same.

As I think of our great faculty and the rich inheritance of teaching excellence from our past that they have so clearly embraced, it has made me wonder: Who were your great influences when you were students here? We would love to hear from you about this. Email me ([mglick@unr.edu](mailto:mglick@unr.edu)) or write the editor ([silverblue@unr.edu](mailto:silverblue@unr.edu)) and share with us your memories of a professor who made a profound difference in your life.

Sincerely,

**Milton D. Glick**  
President

[www.unr.edu/president](http://www.unr.edu/president)



Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas

*Commencement 2009 was a time to celebrate everything—from great faculty to great students to great friends and family—that makes the University of Nevada, Reno campus a special place. Pictured along with President Milton Glick are Paul Bible '62, left, and Annette Whittemore '74, who both received honorary doctorates for their distinguished careers and many contributions to the life of the campus.*



## Features



Great faculty lead the campus



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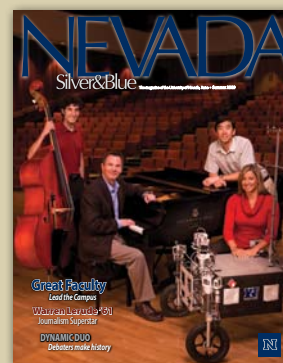
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### About the cover

Bassist Zach Teran, a senior in the jazz and improvisational music program; David Ake, associate professor of music and dance and this year's winner of the F. Donald Tibbitts Distinguished Teacher Award; Eric Wang, associate professor of mechanical engineering and this year's winner of the Regents' Teaching Award; and Ann-Marie Vollstedt '02 (mechanical engineering), '05M.S. (mechanical engineering), '05M.S. (secondary education), and a doctoral candidate in mechanical engineering, all pose in Nightingale Hall with a Steinway grand piano and the robot designed by a team of engineering and science students to compete in the 2009 Mars University Rover Challenge. The Nevada team took third place. Art direction by Patrick McFarland, photography by Theresa Danna-Douglas assisted by Tyler Keck and lighting by Mark Gandolfo.



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**Gatherings** – More photos from Spring Commencement, Golden Reunion and Alumni Skate Night.

**University News** – Straw-bale house survives violent shaking at earthquake lab video.

**Home Means Nevada** – For full interview with Randy Gener '92.

**Remembering Friends** – For the full obituaries.



**Corrections:** In the Spring 2009 Honor Roll of Donors issue, inside cover spread, an incorrect name and bio was attributed to the photo of Charles E. Scripps. The correct information is: The Scripps Howard Foundation was incorporated in 1962 as the philanthropic arm of The E.W. Scripps Company, a media company that operates daily newspapers and network-affiliated television stations throughout the United States. Charles E. Scripps (left) was the foundation's first chairman, and Jack R. Howard (right) was its first president. The complete bio can be found at: [www.unr.edu/nevadasilverandblue/archive/2009/spring/NSB\\_Spring\\_2009\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.unr.edu/nevadasilverandblue/archive/2009/spring/NSB_Spring_2009_WEB.pdf)

On page 17 of the Spring 2009 Honor Roll of Donors issue, the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation's Investment Performance Net of Fees as of December 31, 2008 should have been -29.88%. We regret the errors.

**LOOK ONLINE:** When you see this **LOOK ONLINE** notice in the print magazine, it means there's related bonus material at the website, so check it out: [www.unr.edu/silverandblue](http://www.unr.edu/silverandblue)



# Great faculty lead the campus

*By Melanie Robbins '06M.A. Photos by Theresa Danna-Douglas.*



2009 Foundation Professor Ian Buckle in the Large-Scale Structures Laboratory with some of the graduate students in the earthquake engineering program who are studying the seismic performance of bridges and other structures under the supervision of various faculty in the civil engineering department. Pictured: Sarira Motaref, Arash Esmaili Zaghi, Juan Arias, Mohamed Ayoub, Chunli Wei, Austin Brown and Camilo Builes. Buckle is the director of this laboratory. (Read more about Ian Buckle on page 5)





**F**aculty are central to the University's mission. That's obvious. However, according to Provost Marc Johnson, faculty are the real campus leaders, more so even than top administrators.

"Faculty and students produce everything that the University does," Johnson says. "Faculty are the leaders in that production process. If you have really good, talented faculty, you will have really good results."

Johnson adds: "Our faculty at Nevada may seem unassuming, but many have national and international reputations for scholarship, research and service. Our faculty are being invited to concerts in Europe, for example, and are doing research projects in Africa. The faculty here are well connected in their professions, and are held in high regard internationally and nationally."

Faculty at Nevada take on three different responsibilities that match the core mission of the University of Nevada, Reno: teaching, research and outreach. Awards are given every year in each area.

Johnson, an internationally recognized economist who began his post at the University in June 2008, was formerly vice provost for agriculture and dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Colorado State University. He has worked with the governments and citizens of both Sri Lanka and Russia, helping solve food system and economic problems. As he does, so he preaches: "Good teachers typically, but especially at a research university such as Nevada, are actively involved in their professions."

President Milton Glick greatly admires Nevada's faculty, as well: "If you spend time with our faculty, you will see that they believe that their job is not complete until there has been a meaningful and lasting exchange of wisdom and knowledge in their classrooms, or a new path has been charted in their research labs, or our community's or our state's circumstance has been improved through outreach efforts they have helped initiate."

Most faculty members will tell you, he adds, that each of these three areas—teaching,



research and outreach—helps inform and enhance the others, which is a vital consideration in having an impact on people's lives. "As important as these three areas are, it is the passion of a great faculty member that helps bring life to each one."

**T**his year's slate of faculty award winners exemplifies the down-to-earth, yet engaged, exceptional and passionate professors at Nevada.

## Scott Casper

Professors like the multi-talented history professor Scott Casper, who won the Carnegie 2008 U.S. Professors of the Year award, are among those honored recently for teaching excellence.

The Carnegie/CASE award is sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. The award, founded in 1981, is the only national program recognizing excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring.

Casper teaches upper-division courses on Revolutionary and 19th-century America, the history of the book in America, and the Civil War in American culture, as well as the Core Humanities course "American Experiences." He wrote the 2008 book, *Sarah Johnson's Mount Vernon: The Forgotten History of an American Shrine*, as well as *Constructing American Lives: Biography and Culture in Nineteenth-Century America*, which won the 1999 Book History Prize from the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing.

"My approach is hands-on history, getting students' hands on primary-source materials, visual material and historical documents so that they can understand what those sources tell us about the past," Casper says. "Our role as history teachers is to give students a whole idea of what history is: not just learning information, but crafting and expressing their own interpretations of the past based on evidence and analysis," he added.



*History professor Scott Casper, a current winner of the Carnegie U.S. Professors of the Year award, has won many honors and accolades for teaching, writing and editing, and is known as one of the most popular and engaging teachers on campus.*

Students in Casper's Civil War class have told those stories by writing papers, creating web sites, analyzing historical re-enactments and making movies.

"Students are a lot more tech-savvy than they used to be," he adds. "They have a whole set of tools at their disposal that they didn't have previously, certainly as compared to when I came to the University 16 years ago."

Casper notes that the entire history department actively engages students in learning and are partners to his award: "This award reflects the work that my colleagues in the Department of History have done collectively to enhance undergraduate education at the University. We have emphasized primary-source analysis in all our courses, as well as requiring a senior thesis for history majors. None of these things is my work alone."

In 2008-09 Casper served as visiting editor of the *William & Mary Quarterly*, the leading scholarly journal for the study of early American history and culture.

Casper also won the Regents' Teaching Award in 2005.

## David Ake

David Ake, associate professor of music is this year's recipient of the F. Donald Tibbitts Distinguished Teacher Award.

Ake actively participates in jazz and the history of jazz, and then he carries that recent knowledge into his classroom.

Larry Engstrom, the director of the College of Liberal Arts' School of the Arts, says that Ake winning the Tibbitts was well-deserved:

"David is a great teacher for many reasons. As a scholar, he's a triple threat. As a musicologist, he's one of the world's leading experts on jazz cultures. As a performer, he's a very creative jazz pianist. As a composer, he writes beautiful and provocative music. It's unusual for someone to be gifted in all of these areas, and this provides him a unique perspective."

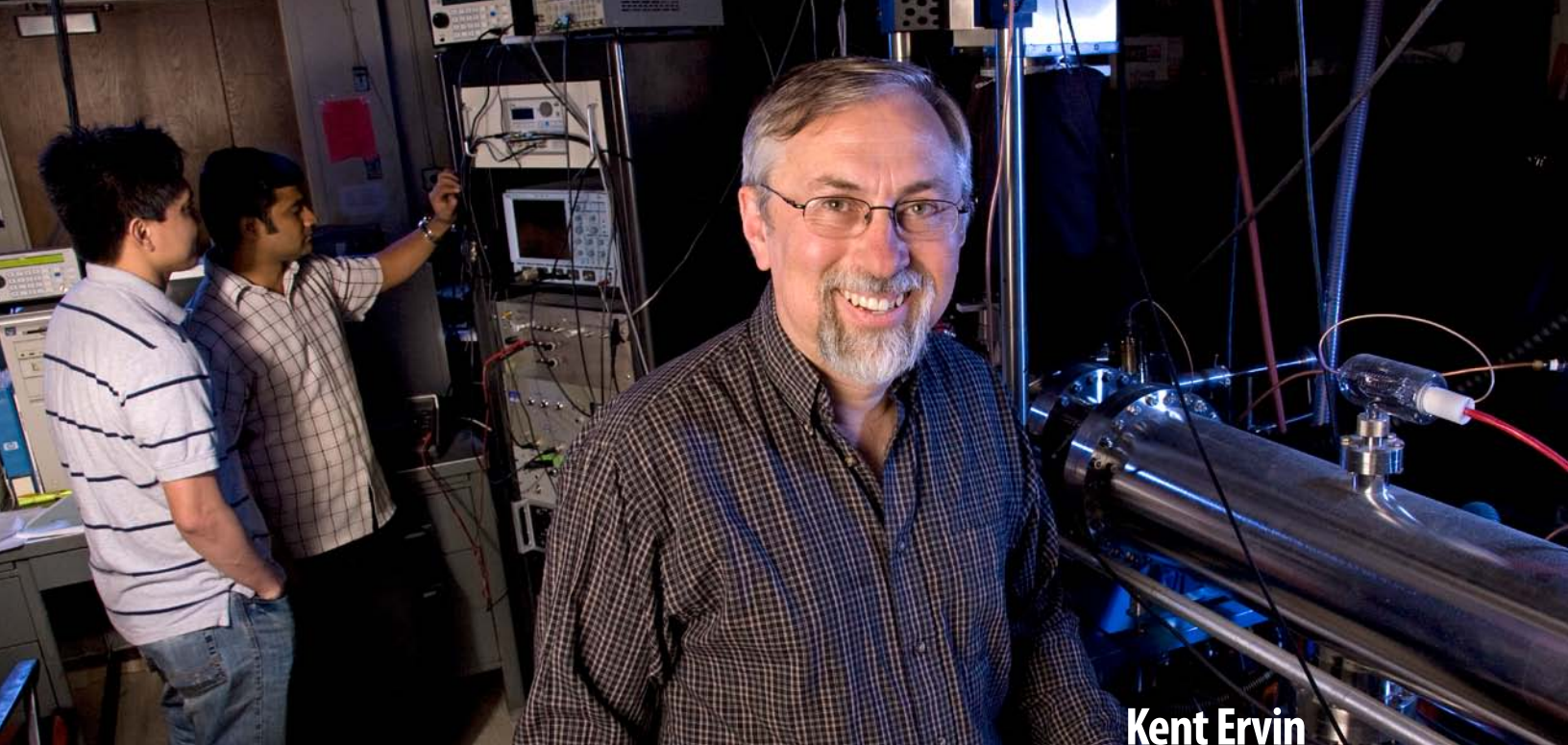
In the classroom, Engstrom says that Ake has a rare ability to make an early connection with his students, one that carries through an entire semester and often lasts well after the class or the semester has ended.

"David has a great sense of humor," Engstrom says. "And he uses that effectively to keep his students interested and engaged through an entire class session. He cares deeply about the subject matter and about his students. He is very organized and thorough in his approach to communicating ideas and concepts to his students. He challenges his students to think critically."

"Add to all that David's warm and pleasant demeanor, and that he's a really nice guy, and I think you can see why he's most deserving of this award."

On his teaching method, Ake says, "I orient all of my courses from the position that music is never just sound; it's created by people and it always reflects and helps to configure notions of identity. Once students buy into that, and





**Kent Ervin**

## Distinguished Faculty

**Richard Davies**, professor of history, joined the University in July 1980 as vice president for academic affairs, before moving to the history department. He is a prolific writer and researcher, amassing a prestigious body of work including five books, three co-edited volumes for the University's Core Humanities program, as well as numerous articles, focusing on the history of American small towns and American sports. He is currently working on a sixth book about sports rivalry.

## Foundation Professors

**Ian Buckle**, professor of civil and environmental engineering is also director of the Center for Civil Engineering Earthquake Research and the Large-Scale Structures Laboratory. He joined the University in 1999. He is a nationally and internationally recognized and respected leader

in earthquake and structural engineering and possesses an outstanding record of accomplishment in research, publication, teaching, and professional and community service. (See photo of Buckle on page 3.)

**Kent Ervin**, professor of chemistry, has been with the University's chemistry department for nearly 19 years. Ervin is an internationally recognized leader in the field of physical chemistry and has published more than 80 papers, which have been cited a phenomenal 4,350 times.

**Mae Gustin**, professor of natural resources and environmental science, joined the University in 1994. Her research interests include study of the fate and transport of environmental contaminants, and she has built a nationally and internationally recognized research program that focuses on questions revolving around the biogeochemical cycle of mercury.



**Mae Gustin**



**Richard Davies**





*College of Business professors Kambiz Raffiee and Elliott Parker spend countless hours outside the classroom helping students achieve their academic goals. That's why they garnered top advising awards this year. Students on LEFT: Adam Cole, Jessica Thorngren, and Grace Morris. Students on RIGHT: Lisa Harkins, Karissa Loper, Stephen Graves. REAR: Chuck McCumber.*

see and hear how it works, then it's not too difficult to maintain their interest."

Ake's record of scholarship further reinforces this position. He has already written a critically praised book, *Jazz Cultures* (University of California Press) on this very subject, with a second book due in 2010. The combination of research, teaching and his own experiences as an accomplished jazz pianist—he has played with such outstanding musicians as Ravi Coltrane, Charlie Haden, James Newton and Bud Shank, and has appeared on a number of recordings and is a regular with the University's excellent jazz quintet, "The Collective"—has helped make Ake one of the campus' most well-rounded professors. (See Ake's photo on the cover.)

## Eric Wang

Ake has more mountains to climb, however, and one of the trailblazers in front of him is Eric Wang, associate professor of mechanical engineering, who captured the statewide 2009 Regents' Teaching Award, given to only one university professor each year. Wang won the

Tibbitts award in 2003.

"Winning the Tibbitts award was a huge honor," Wang says. "The Regents' Award is like Tibbitts times 10."

Wang has drawn the attention of the regents and others nationally and internationally for his innovative, research-based, hands-on teaching approach, exemplified by his introductory mechanical engineering course in which freshmen buy a LEGO robot kit instead of a textbook. The students then design and build a "battle-bot," for their class project, which culminates in a competition to see which robot can wreak the most destruction and survive the longest on the "battlefield"—an indoor ring. Involving students in design from the very beginning of their college careers is an approach that is not based on a hunch, he notes. It has been proven to work: Retention rates for these students are high, three years after taking the two-course introductory sequence, 66 percent were still pursuing an engineering degree and more than 80 percent were still at Nevada working on degrees, one follow-up study showed.

Wang is the author of the first and

only book on the programming language ROBOLAB, and gives lectures and workshops worldwide to educators, teaching them how to introduce engineering design concepts via the LEGO Mindstorms family of robot-making kits. The book, *Engineering with LEGO Bricks and ROBOLAB™*, was first published in 2003 and is now in its third printing. After winning the Regents' Teaching Award, Wang says he told his mother, "Playing with LEGOs when I was little has finally paid off!"

"I feel very lucky to be at Nevada," he adds. "Many institutions pay lip service to the scholarship of teaching, but the University of Nevada, Reno has consistently rewarded me for it. That is truly unique and is the primary reason I'm here."

In addition, Wang has been an integral member of the "E-Team," Capstone course: a senior-level design course in design and entrepreneurship that requires students to bring a product from concept to prototype and write a business proposal as a member of a faux "company."

College of Engineering Dean Manos Maragakis says, "Eric is an outstanding, well-rounded faculty member. He has introduced





*Monica Miller wields the gavel in the court room in the Judicial College with her Law-Psychology laboratory students. BACK: Alicia Summers, Lacey Miller and Pam Keller. FRONT: Alane Thomas, Lorie Sicafuse, Clare Pettis, Alex Sigillo, Sam Lindsey.*

several innovative approaches in his classes. He has applied project-based learning into the first year experience with very positive results on student learning and understanding of engineering. He has introduced entrepreneurship into the senior mechanical engineering capstone course and integration with other engineering and business disciplines. The college and the University have benefited from his dedication and innovation. I think this is a well-deserved award and I am very proud that he has won it.”

Wang has also secured more than \$1 million in engineering education grants for the College of Engineering. (See Wang’s photo on the cover.)

**W**ithout academic advisers, students might easily flounder along without direction to their studies, perhaps achieving their goals, perhaps not. But with great advising, students can reach their highest potential. The College of Business swept the top advising awards this year with economics professor **Elliott Parker** winning the Regents’ Academic Advisor Award as well as the University’s Undergraduate Academic

Advisor award and Associate Dean **Kambiz Raffiee** winning the University’s Graduate Academic Advisor Award.

Dean of the College of Business Greg Mosier says, “Dr. Raffiee and Dr. Parker dedicate countless hours outside of the classroom to helping students achieve their academic goals. We are extremely proud that both the undergraduate and graduate advising awards have been given to College of Business faculty members and that Dr. Parker was honored with the Regents’ undergraduate advising award. These awards represent the quality of our program and our faculty’s focus on student success.”

In addition, **Monica Miller**, assistant professor of criminal justice, garnered the 2009 Outstanding Undergraduate Research Faculty Mentor Award, a University-wide award given by the Office of the Vice President for Research recognizing faculty who nurture undergraduate researchers.

## Elliott Parker

Parker has had a whirlwind academic year that included being elected chair of the Faculty

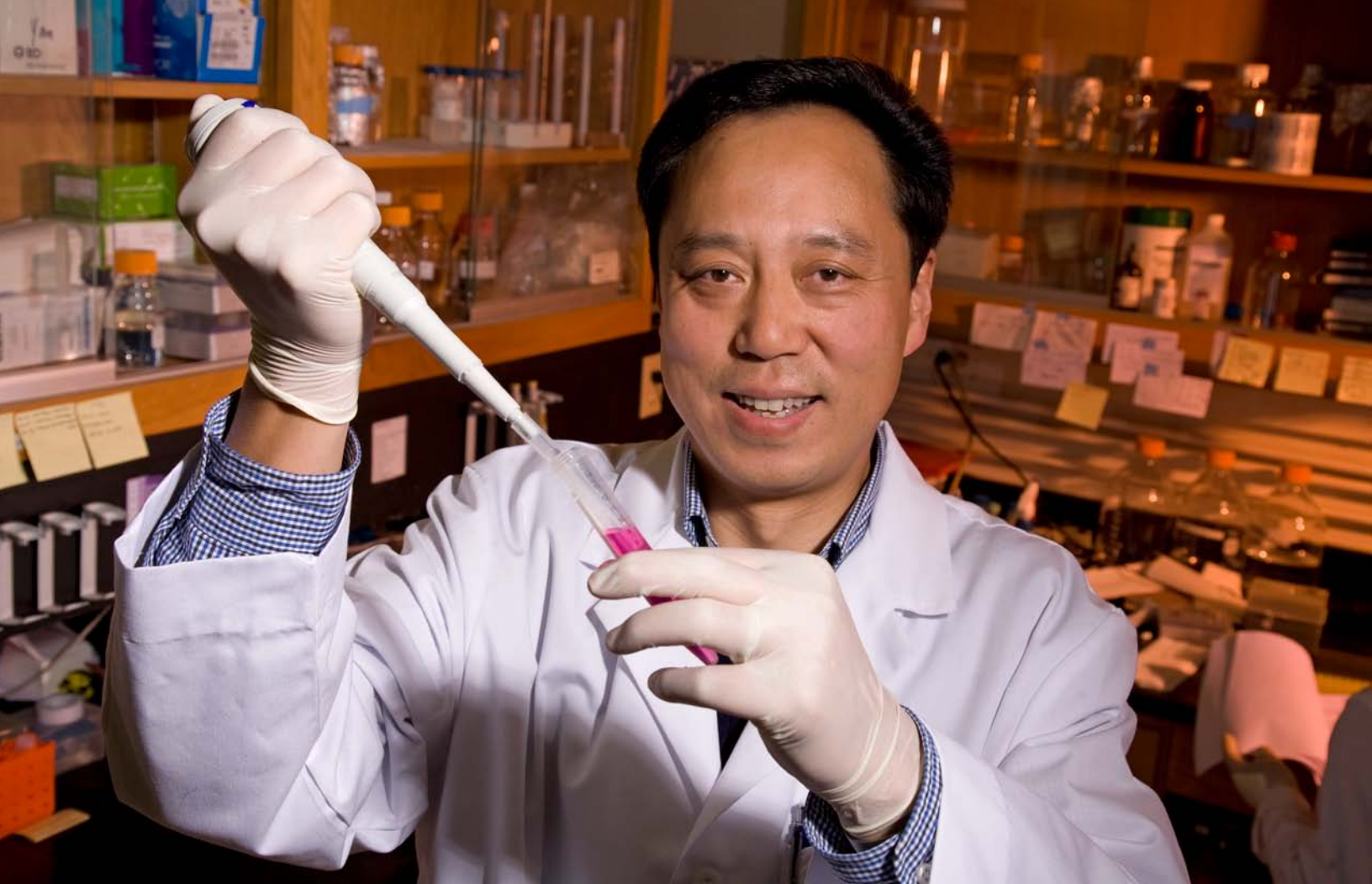
Senate and named mentor to the College of Business’ Senior Scholar, Janine Stone ’08 (political science/economics) for the fall semester, in addition to winning the top advising awards.

“I am flattered by all the attention, very honored, and more than somewhat humbled,” Parker says. “I feel very lucky. It’s nice to know that this University I love thinks well of me, too.”

While he is “first and foremost” an economist, Parker has advised international business students as a service to the College of Business since the major was created more than a decade ago.

“I have had many scores of students coming to ask me to help them figure out their courses and their problems, while trying to also find time to write lectures, grade, or do other research,” he says. “While it was hard to find time to do everything, I never felt resentment for the time needed.”

The best reward, he says, is working with students. Students like Britton Griffith ’09 (international business), who wrote to thank Parker: “I know I had some very difficult obstacles ... but with your help of substitutions and advice I was able to get everything back in place and graduate on time. I do not think I



*Wei Yan and his colleagues have gained insights into the reproductive workings of the male sex chromosome that may have significant implications for male infertility and contraception.*

could have been successful in this task without you taking over as my advisor. Because of your help, I will be attending law school this fall with a full ride at the Western State University, School of Law, in Fullerton, Calif.

"It's teachers like you that made me challenge myself and go the extra step in my education that helped me to be accepted to law school and I am appreciative beyond words."

## Kambiz Raffiee

Raffiee joined the University in 1983. He is not only associate dean of the College of Business, but also director of the top-ranking MBA Program (master's in business administration).

The University's part-time MBA program was ranked number 17 in the United States by *BusinessWeek* in 2007. It is also ranked as one of the best MBA programs in the United States by *Princeton Review* in 2009.

"I'm honored to receive the University's Graduate Academic Advisor Award. Advising

is an integral part of the MBA program and I'm grateful for the support of my students and colleagues in receiving the award," Raffiee says.

Raffiee's advising philosophy is that advisors should "show our students that we take accuracy, punctuality, rigor and transparency in advising seriously; treat students with utmost respect; and work with students to grow academically and professionally in their graduate programs."

For his significant contributions in research, teaching, and service, he received the University's Foundation Professor Award in 2001.

## Monica Miller

Miller joined the Department of Criminal Justice in July 2004. She holds a joint appointment as an assistant professor in the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in social psychology. Interim Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School Marsha Read says, "Since arriving at the University, Miller has

mentored 32 undergraduate students and has been an avid supporter of providing research opportunities to undergraduates. Research by Dr. Miller and her students has led to numerous publications and poster presentations at various conferences. I congratulate her for her achievements and extraordinary dedication to undergraduate research."

She has produced 72 publications co-authored with 41 different graduate or undergraduate students. The University's Graduate Student Association also awarded Miller the Vada Trimble Outstanding Mentor Award for 2009.

In addition to teaching and outreach, University researchers have two additional roles, according to Provost Marc Johnson: "One role is to be engaged and producing new knowledge to push the bounds of our scientific knowledge out, or to apply that knowledge to solve problems. The second role of research is that we have a responsibility to perform graduate education



so that we are producing future scientists, engineers, social scientists and musicians.”

Two award-winning professors who exemplify both roles are **Wei Yan**, associate professor in the Department of Physiology and Cell Biology in the School of Medicine and the winner of the 2009 Regents’ Rising Researcher Award, and **Bruce Moran**, history professor and winner of the University’s 2009 Outstanding Researcher of the Year Award.

## Wei Yan

As the principal investigator in a study, Yan and his colleagues have gained insights into the reproductive workings of the male sex chromosome that may have significant implications for male infertility and contraception.

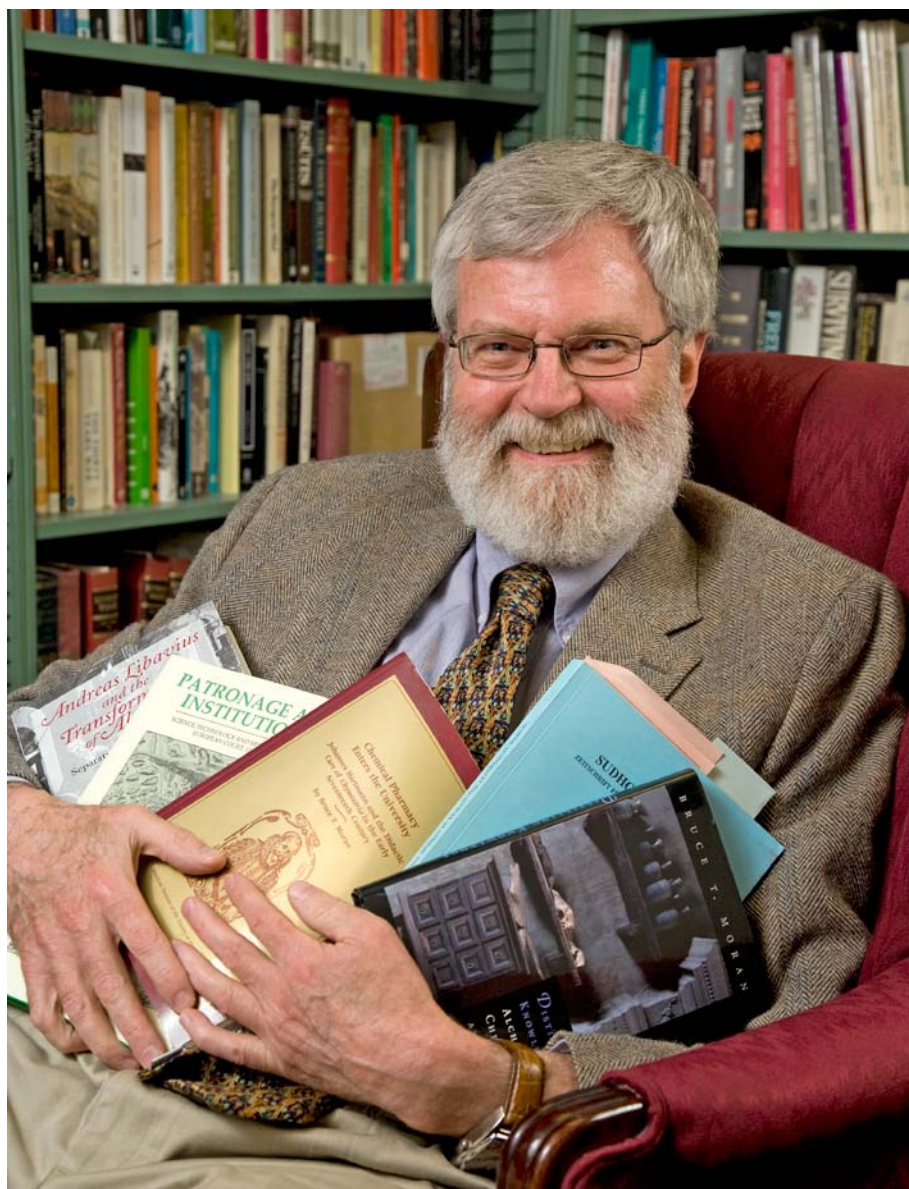
This important discovery has been published in *Nature Genetics*, one of the highest-ranking journals in the field of biomedical research based upon the impact factor.

The study findings indicate that the X chromosome in developing sperm cells encodes numerous tiny ribonucleic acids called microRNAs despite the fact that most of genes on the X chromosome are suppressed. This unprecedented observation implies that these small RNAs have critical roles in chromosome inactivation and also in sperm formation.

Yan’s research group further investigated all the known X-linked microRNAs. Their data confirm that these X chromosome-derived microRNAs indeed escape the well-known “silencing effects” and manage to be expressed.

“This finding opens a new avenue toward understanding the role of these small RNA species in the control of sperm production,” Yan says, noting that worldwide, one in nine couples in their reproductive age experiences infertility. On the other hand, the number of unintended pregnancies is increasing yearly. “Since these small RNAs are involved in the control of sperm formation, they can be causative factors in male infertility and also can be used as non-hormonal male contraceptive targets.”

In addition to making scientific break-



History professor Bruce Moran loves coming to work: “It’s invigorating, exciting,” he says. “Research keeps me alive.”

throughs, Yan has published 18 additional articles in highly respected journals and has provided research mentorship for numerous graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

## Bruce Moran

For the past 30 years, Bruce Moran has been spending his summers in the Scientific Revolution of 1400-1700. His painstaking research into the roots of science and medicine spawned six books, scores of articles and acclaim.

His ongoing work and world-renowned research into alchemy as a precursor of modern science and medicine may seem a bit obscure,

though also enlightening. It’s a subject that has been disparaged and disowned for centuries, he says, and now it’s being brought out in the daylight, and is planned as the focus of a special section in the authoritative international history of science journal *ISIS* in 2010.

Historical alchemy has received more attention in the past few years as researchers discover more about the evolution of science and medicine. Moran’s latest book on the subject “*Distilling Knowledge: Alchemy, Chemistry and the Scientific Revolution*” is required reading at several universities, including UCLA and USC.

“It came as a surprise,” Moran says of receiving the outstanding researcher award. “It’s really humbling; I’m thrilled, gratified and





Photo by Mitch Kazar

*Ed Smith '78, '84M.S. observes one of his fuelbreak study plots in the aftermath of Carson City's Waterfall Fire.*

appreciative of the acknowledgement. There are so many people on campus who could, just as easily, receive this award, and when I think of those who have been acknowledged by the award in the past—wow, to be a part of that group is truly overwhelming.”

“Awards like this,” Moran says, “help to reassert a fundamental mission of any university—to create knowledge as well as to communicate it. It’s a privilege to be in a department, a college and a University that promotes and values scholarship.

“I like going to work, it’s invigorating, exciting,” he says. “Research keeps me alive.”

“The thrill of the historian is to be able to huddle over things that only a few people have seen,” Moran says. “There’s an instant connection with a far distant world, with its values and frustrations, and with the ways that it has attempted to explain the operations of nature and the body.”

Moran has been at Nevada since 1976, teaching a variety of history classes centered around his specialty of the history of science, early medicine, European culture and

intellectual history.

Moran has been a Humboldt Stipendiat (Kassel), guest professor at the Institut für Geschichte der Pharmazie, Marburg, Germany, and has held fellowships in the Department of the History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge and at the Wellcome Center for the History of Medicine, London. He is a Life Member of Clare Hall, Cambridge and a 1993 University of Nevada Foundation Professor.

**A**lmost all universities have research and education mission, notes Provost Johnson. But the University of Nevada, Reno, the state’s only land-grant university, has the unique obligation to carry the knowledge of the University to the public—to all 17 counties in Nevada—he says.

“We do that with teaching operations, with Extended Studies, and we have Cooperative Extension offices. The University has Cooperative Extension offices in 15 counties throughout Nevada.”

## Ed Smith

“We have professionals out there molding knowledge from their training into answers to local questions,” Johnson says. Ed Smith ’78 (renewable natural resource management), ’84M.S. (renewable natural resource management) natural resources specialist with University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and the winner of the 2009 Distinguished Outreach Faculty Award, is known nationally and internationally for his work teaching educators, agency officials and the public who live in fire-prone areas how to save lives and reduce property damage with his Living with Fire program.

“Ed works tirelessly with property owners, fire departments, land management agencies and others throughout the state to educate the public about reducing Nevada’s wildfire threats,” says Johnson. “He knits together a whole crowd of agency folks and teaches them how to educate the general public to prevent fires and respond to them when they do occur. Ed is an excellent example of one of the Uni-



*"Faculty members will tell you that each of these three areas—teaching, research and outreach—helps inform and enhance the others . . . As important as these three areas are, it is the passion of a great faculty member that helps bring life to each one."*

*President Milton Glick*

versity's top outreach faculty."

While on the job, Smith recognized that more acres had burned in Nevada in a decade than in the previous 40 years—and that something needed to be done.

"Prior to implementation of the Living with Fire program, there was no organized forum for teaching Nevadans threat-reduction techniques," Smith says. "Research results indicate that pre-fire activities performed by a homeowner, such as creating defensible space and removing pine needles from rain gutters and screening vents, can significantly improve a home's survivability during a wildland fire."


Smith credits the efforts of thousands of constituents for the overall success of his programs. "Getting the word out is critical. I am so honored because homeowners, fire departments and agencies—including the Lake Tahoe Regional Fire Chiefs Association, Nevada Division of Forestry, the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, the Nevada Insurance Council and others—have embraced our outreach and shared the program with their neighbors and communities throughout the country."

Since 1998, in a state where 68 communities are considered at high or extreme risk of wildfire, Smith's Living with Fire program and curriculum have won numerous awards, have grown to national prominence and are now taught to fire professionals for use in teaching defensible space to homeowners in dozens of states. A *Living with Fire* tabloid is also published as an educational tool for the public, with more than 2 million copies distributed

throughout the West and used as a model by other communities nationwide.

A natural outgrowth of the Living with Fire program has been the creation of the Nevada Fire Safe Council, a nonprofit partnership established in 1999 as a bridge between fire services and public agencies and their communities threatened by wildfire. Smith was responsible for founding the council, preparing the Articles of Incorporation as a nonprofit agency, and leading the organization as a volunteer executive director during its formative years.

Since 2002, the NFSC has acquired \$25 million in federal and private grant funds, has established more than 100 community chapters and has grown to more than 5,000 subscribed members. Fred Holman, vice provost for Extended Studies, who chairs the award committee, says: "Ed's outreach and the partnership programs he has developed reach every corner of the state and beyond, have grown to become sustainable beyond his own contributions, and have had a substantial impact even at the legislative level. His visionary commitment to outreach, to identifying needs and to bringing diverse groups together for the common good is truly exceptional."

For more about Living With Fire, call (775) 856-8403 or visit [www.livingwithfire.info](http://www.livingwithfire.info). For other threat-mitigation programs offered by University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, call (775) 784-4848. 

*Contributors to this story include Pat McDonnell, Anne McMillin, APR, John Trent '85/'87, '00M.A., and Mike Wolterbeek '02.*



## What is an Endowed Chair?

The professorial "chair" dates back to Elizabethan times. A chair then was a rare and highly coveted piece of furniture. In the custom of that period, common people sat on wooden stools and benches, the gentry used cushions on the floor, and even the grandest room in a nobleman's castle rarely held more than a single piece of furniture that could be called a chair.

When a teacher was raised to the position of professor and enjoyed the income from a named fund given by the monarch, generous noble or wealthy benefactor, he was presented with an actual chair as a symbol of his elevated status in the world of learning.

The first endowed chair at the University of Nevada, Reno was established more than 30 years ago. Nevada now boasts 20 endowed chairs and professorships in such diverse disciplines as journalism, nursing, history, medicine, gaming studies, engineering, historic preservation, geophysics, humanities, metallurgy, minerals engineering, and grazing and rangeland management. The permanent endowed fund created by philanthropic gifts provides perpetual annual income in support of the teaching and research activities of the person holding the chair.

## Why endowed positions?

Endowed chairs and professorships bring added strength to the faculty. In higher education, they are the highest academic honor bestowed upon a faculty member to recognize academic distinction. Endowed faculty positions enable the University to attract and retain the most talented and sought-after faculty—those who have achieved renown in their professions and are considered leaders in their fields. A first-rate faculty attracts the brightest students, and in turn, students are challenged and guided by exposure to the highest quality academic leadership. The prestige surrounding an endowed chair is shared not only by its holder, but also the donor whose gift made it possible, the person whose name it bears, and the University.

*For more information about how you can endow a faculty position at Nevada, please contact Bruce Mack, associate vice president for Development and Alumni Relations at (775) 784-1352 or [bmack@unr.edu](mailto:bmack@unr.edu).*



## Faculty Awards and Accomplishments

**In addition to the faculty featured on the preceding pages, many excellent faculty across campus distinguished themselves recently with notable accomplishments.**

**V. Dean Adams**, civil and environmental engineering: Alumni Merit Citation Award from Utah State University.

**Tuncay Alparslan**, mathematics and statistics: Alan Bible Teaching Excellence Award, Colleges of Science and Liberal Arts

**Theodore Batchman**, Renewable Energy Center: Ronald J. Schmitz Award for Outstanding Service to the Frontiers in Education Conference.

**Susan Bender**, International Students & Scholars, and **Carmelo Urza**, University Studies Abroad Consortium: Global Citizen awards, University's Northern Nevada International Center.

**Debbie Boehm**, anthropology and women's studies: Fulbright-Garcia Robles Award to conduct research in Zacatecas, Mexico.

**Indira Chatterjee**, electrical and biomedical engineering: Ralph and Rose Hooper Excellence in Teaching and Advisement Award.

**Craig Carter**, managerial sciences: Outstanding Reviewer Award, *International Journal of Physical Distribution and Logistics Management* (Emerald Literati Network Award for Excellence).

**Amy Childress**, civil and environmental engineering: Nevada Women's Fund Women of Achievement Award.

**Kristin Clements-Nolle**, School of Community Health Sciences, and **Ahmad Itani**, civil and environmental engineering: Runners up to the F. Donald Tibbitts, Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award. Clements-Nolle also won the Division of Health Sciences Teaching Award.

**Keith Dennett**, civil and environmental engineering, and **Luis Loria Salazar**, graduate research assistant: Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering's Outstanding Faculty Award.

**Rosemary Dixon**, women's studies, Blackboard Exemplary Course for Gender and Society Online Course.

**Bill Eadington**, gaming studies: University of Macau Doctor of Business Administration *honoris causa*.

**Maurice Fuerstenau**, chemical and metallurgical engineering: Honorary Member of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers.

**Mary Groves**, managerial sciences lecturer: College of Business Outstanding Faculty Member.

**Jen Hill**, English: American Council of Learned Societies Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowships for Recently Tenured Scholars. She will spend a year doing research at Chicago University's Newberry Library.

**Karen Hinton**, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension: USDA Secretary's Honor Award for eXtension, a Web-based initiative.

**Vladimir Ivanov**, Nevada Terawatt Facility: College of Science's Hyung K. Shin Excellence in Research Award.

**Stephen Jenkins**, professor of biology: College of Science's LeMay Excellence in Teaching Award.

**Karen Kopera-Frye**, School of Social Work: National teaching award from the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.

**Dana Loomis**, School of Community Health Sciences: Named editor of *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, a journal published by the British Medical Association.

**Manoranjan Misra**, chemical and metallurgical engineering, and **Sergiu Dascalu**, computer science and engineering: Nevada's Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology's Faculty Advisor Special Recognition Award.

**Bourne Morris**, journalism: Nevada Semenza Christian Teaching Award.

**Kathryn Obenchain**, associate professor of social studies and citizenship education in the Department of Educational Specialties: Senior Fulbright Fellowship for both lecturing (teaching) and research at the College of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai, Romania.

**Sandra Ott**, associate professor in the Center for Basque Studies: National Endowment for the Humanities summer stipend for research.

**John Packham**, director of the Nevada Rural Hospital Flexibility Program at the Center for

Education and Health Services Outreach at the School of Medicine: won Nevada Public Health Leader of the Year Award, Nevada Public Health Association.

**Pamela Powell** and **Marilyn Smith**, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension: USDA Extension Family Science Team Award for their work in the disaster preparedness program called Alert, Evacuate, and Shelter Training.

**Wilfredo de Rafols**, foreign languages and literatures, and **Grant Stitt**, criminal justice: University President's Award for Outstanding Committee Service.

**Yasuhiko Sentoku**, physics: College of Science's Dr. Donald Mousel & Dr. William Feltner Award for Excellence in Research.

**Meri Shadley**, Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Treatment: John Chappel Award for Excellence in the Field of Treatment, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency of the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services.

**Marilyn Smith**, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension: National Excellence in Extension Award, National Association of State and Land Grant Colleges.

**Judy Strauss**, managerial sciences: Helen Williams Award for Excellence in Collegiate Independent Study, presented by the American Association for Collegiate Independent Study, Marketing Principles Online Course; Lifetime Achievement in Marketing, awarded by the American Marketing Association, Reno-Tahoe Chapter. "Barbie Buyer," pictured with Strauss in the photo to the right, was the class mascot.

**Jonghwan Suhr**, mechanical engineering: National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program award.

**Patti Swager**, Nevada Geriatrics Center, School of Medicine: Fellow of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.

**Mehmet Tosun**, economics: Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor, Bonn, Germany.

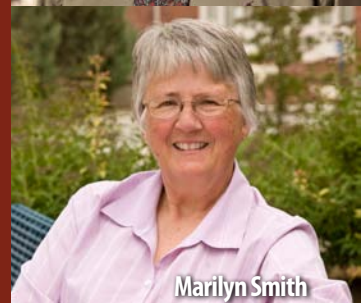
**Jim Winn**, music and dance: Governor's Arts Award for his outstanding accomplishments as a keyboardist and composer.

**Don Winne**, managerial sciences: College of Business B.J. Fuller Excellence in Teaching Award.

**Liming Zhang**, chemistry: Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow.



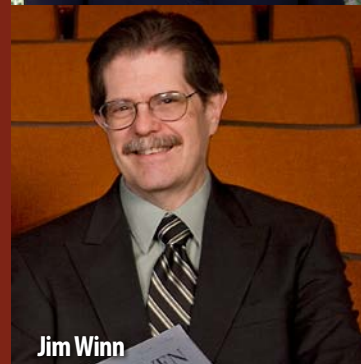
Ahmad Itani



Marilyn Smith



Kristin Clements-Nolle



Jim Winn



Carmelo Urza



Pamela Powell

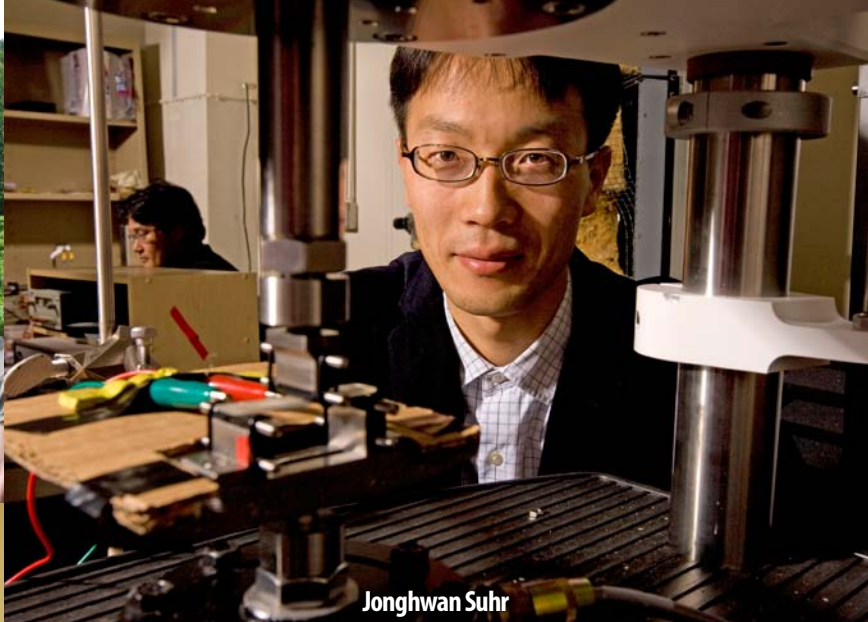




V. Dean Adams



Kathryn Obenchain (center)



Jonghwan Suhr



Susan Bender



Meri Shadley



Jen Hill



Amy Childress



Judy Strauss



Debbie Boehm



Mary Groves



Don Winne



Rosemary Dixon

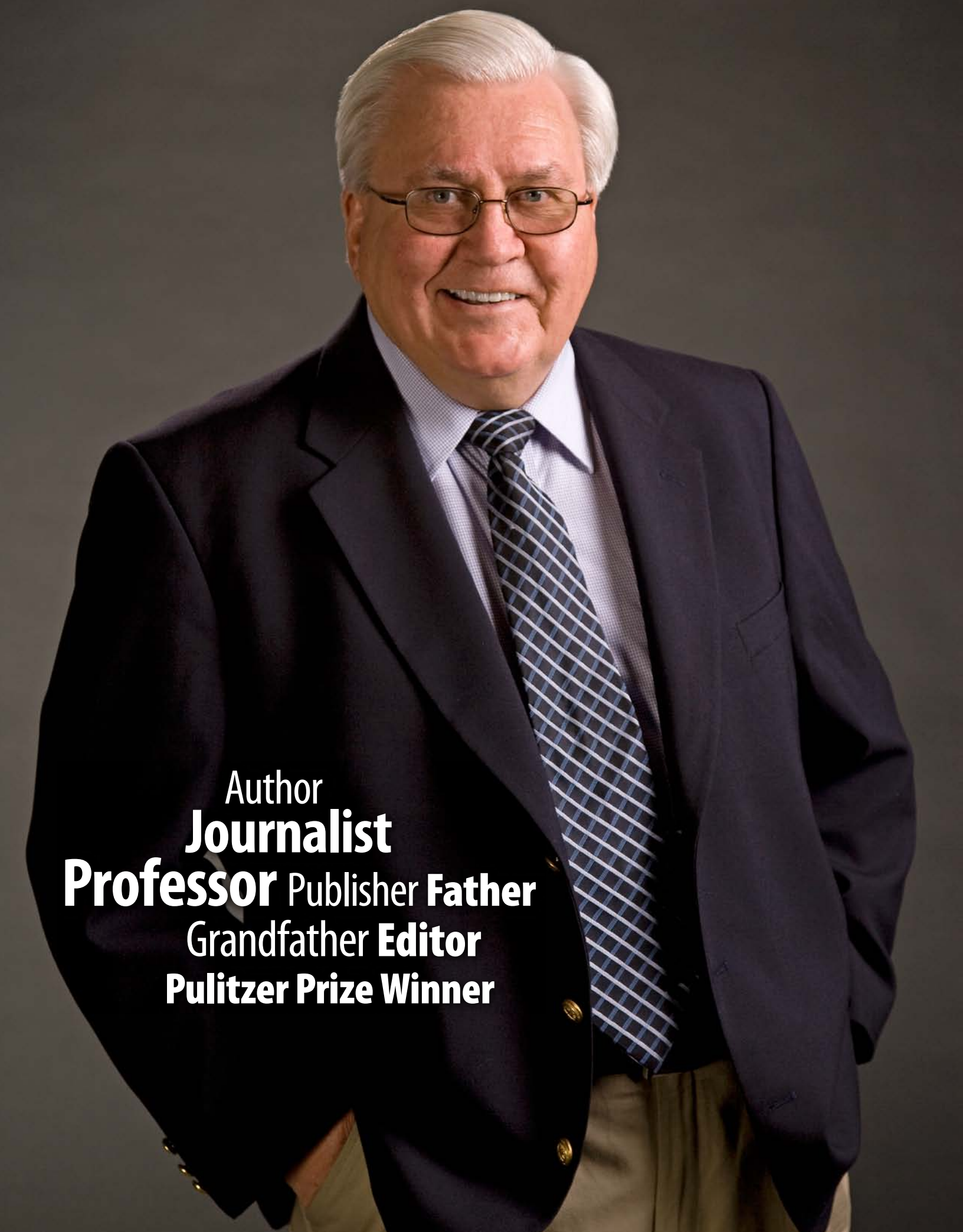


Bourne Morris



Tuncay Alparslan



A portrait of an older man with white hair and glasses, smiling. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a light blue patterned shirt, and a blue and white striped tie. His hands are in his pockets.

Author  
**Journalist**  
**Professor** Publisher **Father**  
Grandfather **Editor**  
**Pulitzer Prize Winner**



# Warren Lerude

Warren Lerude '61 (journalism)

What I've learned is that life is full of surprises, heroics, creativity and hard work, thrills, spectacular opportunities and dreams come true.

I hadn't thought about it that way until Senior Editor Melanie Robbins asked me to share what I've learned in my 71 years with readers of *Nevada Silver & Blue* magazine.

Let's start with dreams come true.

When I was a 23-year-old journalism student at the University of Nevada in 1960 I met a beautiful, kind, loving and very smart 20-year-old co-ed of Genovese Italian descent. She had sparkling blue eyes, light, golden brown hair and a warming smile that would light up friends and strangers alike. Her name was Janet Lagomarsino. She was a second-generation Nevadan as was I. We married after my graduation in 1961 and set out on a dream-filled life that would bring us three wonderful children and take us across the oceans to the world's great cities and spiraling mountain peaks.

Throughout our 48 years of marriage we have learned—and are still learning—that if we are lucky, and if we work at it, life is full of continuing education, adventure, humor, grace and giving to others, courage, perseverance and storytelling.

I deepened my learning about storytelling from Nevada's gifted author Robert Laxalt, who coached me away from my fear of writing a book. Chapters are just like feature stories, he told me, assuring that since I'd written many hundreds of such stories I could write a book. Just blend each chapter into the next and keep writing, keep the story moving, he said. He made it sound easy but he knew it was not.

Bob Laxalt knew the writer's fear of the blank page. He had tried again and again to write about his Basque sheepherder father, only to pull the pages of wrong words from the typewriter and cast them into the wastebasket. Again and again, he tried. Again and again, he failed. But he kept writing.

And then he wrote: "My father was a sheepherder, and his home was the hills." His iconic book *Sweet Promised Land* came to literary life.

Keep writing. I have followed that advice into my own books, columns, editorials, essays, feature stories, breaking news stories, local, regional, national and international storytelling.

Perhaps the most significant thing I have learned is that we learn from others who take the time to teach us. If we learn that lesson well, we then take the time to teach others, new generations.

I had the good fortune to meet such a teacher when I was 17 years old, about to graduate from Reno High School and wondering what to do with my life. On a spring day in 1955 I drove up North Virginia Street, parked my car at a curb near Artemisia Hall and walked on to the University of Nevada campus. I'd never been to the academic part of the University. I'd only been to football and basketball games.

While neither of my parents, Les and Lone Lerude, had gone to college, they very successfully had founded Reno's Wigwam Coffee Shop, known to generations for its hot apple pie and butter sauce, and they encouraged me to pursue higher education.

I walked into what was then the Thompson Education Building just off the Quad and asked

a woman at a desk if I could talk to someone about the possibility of going to college. Would you like to speak to the dean? she asked. I didn't know what a dean was but I said yes and she took me around a little counter into an adjacent office and introduced me to a man I learned was Dean Garold Holstine.

He asked me what I would do if I had a million dollars and didn't have to work. An interesting question for a teenager in faded jeans, T-shirt and no concept of college.

I guess I would like to help people, I said.

How'd you do in math? he asked.

Not so good, I said.

How about English? he asked.

I got As, I said.

The education dean personally walked the teenager to the nearby journalism department in what is now the Jones Visitor Center on the Quad and introduced me to a man I came to know as "Higgy" or "Prof", the legendary A.L. Higginbotham.

Higgy was a born recruiter. You're going to be a journalist, he beamed.

What's a journalist? I asked.

I learned in my classes with Higgy and another professor, Keiste Janulis, that a journalist could right wrongs, report and write about the needs of struggling and oppressed humanity, comfort the afflicted (and some say afflict the comfortable).

I learned as a young editorial writer for the *Reno Evening Gazette* that many African-American children did not know how to swim



because they lived in Northeast Reno and the public swimming pools were in mostly white Southwest Reno.

I learned that daily newspaper editorials were powerful enough to move white officials of Reno City Hall to go into the neighborhoods where they could learn about the needs of their black constituents. The editorials stirred public opinion and led to construction of a swimming pool in Northeast Reno's Traner Middle School where black and white boys and girls could all swim together.

I learned as a young father married to an inspiring and caring young mother that our own children, Eric, Christopher and Leslie, needed the structure and love of a family sharing enjoyable and challenging thoughts around the dinner table each evening about what they had done to help someone or what they had learned that day. And I learned that a family traveling together to countryside, mountains and cities on vacations would inspire quests for adventure with their own children, our grandchildren.

The quest for learning, which had been inspirational for me at the University of Nevada in journalism, led me to search out mentors and I found them in the likes of Nevada J grads Paul Finch '56 of *The Associated Press* and Rollan Melton '55 of the *Reno Evening Gazette*, *Nevada Journal* and the corporate management intelligence of Speidel Newspapers Inc.

Paul hired me into The AP where I learned the dedication—and thrill—of intense, split-second, reporting and writing in competition against our worthy foe *United Press International* at a journalistic level meriting a front page byline in *The New York Times* and hundreds of other newspapers across the nation and around the world.

Rollan hired me away from The AP into the Reno newspapers as a reporter and encouraged me toward a career in editing and management, which would inspire my development of public service investigative reporting and publishing. This provided me opportunity to serve on seven Pulitzer Prize juries over three decades at Columbia University in New York City and the privilege for me to lead a team of editorial writers to win the Pulitzer Prize in journalism in 1977.

Rollan enabled me to learn the unique financial stewardship of our executive owned Speidel Newspapers Inc., which had been established by the financial visionary publisher Charles H. (Chick) Stout.

We all learned about Wall Street as Speidel went public in 1973 and into a merger with Gannett Co., Inc. in 1977. This produced major shareholder gains that enabled many Speidel executives and spouses and descendants to share hard-earned wealth with our alma mater University of Nevada and our nationally acclaimed Reynolds School of Journalism.

The merger with Gannett provided more opportunity: to learn from world press leader Al Neuharth, who invited me to join his teams in the founding of both *USA TODAY* and the Newseum. The latter is the remarkable museum of the news from prehistoric cave drawings to the Internet now on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C.

Perhaps a most significant learning experience was in making our journalism education dreams come true. Rollan and I sat down for discussions with the University's great president Joe Crowley in the mid and late 1970s. Rollan was a senior executive and director of Gannett and I was editor and publisher of the afternoon *Reno Evening Gazette* and the morning *Nevada State Journal*.

We made Joe Crowley an offer that he didn't refuse: If Joe would permit the good but small department of journalism, for decades in the College of Arts and Sciences, to become a full-fledged, independent school of journalism with its own dean, we would reach out to our national journalistic friends to help make it happen.

To the good fortune of today's students and more generations to come, Joe Crowley, a political scientist who knew the value of good journalism in society, gave his approval and successfully sought that of the Board of Regents.

Together, we approached major media owner Donald W. Reynolds and his chief executive leader, Fred W. Smith, and, with their blessing, vision and support, the Reynolds School of Journalism was born in 1984.

This Reynolds School of Journalism stands today as a national beacon of excellence as

our students and professors collaborate in learning how to define the new technology media that will build on the old standards for America's innovative communications future. Never have there been such opportunity—and incentive—for students and teachers to learn together. My own students are teaching me how to use my new iPhone.

This new generation of students will discover the answers to questions haunting today's perplexed media leaders as newspapers cut back on content and some disappear altogether, stocks fall from \$82 to \$2 a share, dividends are slashed by 90 percent and management and employees together are forced into unpaid furloughs or terminated.

We have painfully learned this at a dramatic moment when readers are clamoring for more news anywhere they can find it—mostly on the Internet where they are hard-pressed to find credible investigative reporting and editing.

Importantly, I have learned through this career that journalism is the lifeblood of Democracy. And I have learned over the last 28 years on the Reynolds School faculty how to teach this to our students.

The lesson is profound. In 1734, John Peter Zenger was thrown into jail by King George's governor in New York City for allegedly libeling the Crown of England. A colonial jury decided that truth was a defense against libel and that Zenger had printed the truth. He was set free and he continued publishing the news in his *New York Journal*.

Nine years later, Thomas Jefferson would be born. He would proceed to write the Declaration of Independence. Forty two years after Zenger's colonial jury newspaper trial, the colonies would conduct a revolution and establish the United States of America based on freedom of expression.

This, one hopes, we all have learned. **N**

Warren Lerude, professor of journalism emeritus, is co-author of *American Commander in Spain*, Robert Hale Merriman and the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, published by the University of Nevada Press, and the text of *Above Tahoe* and Reno, published by acclaimed aerial photographer Robert Cameron of San Francisco.



# Vintage Nevada

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*Southern Wine  
and Spirits*  
OF NEVADA







Signing Days celebrated top scholars who will attend Nevada. TOP: Reno High School seniors Mallory Fisher, Fariha Amin, Richard Brizendine and Casey O'Bryan, with Ron Pardini (standing), interim dean of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources. ABOVE: Reed High senior Christopher Salls with Provost Marc Johnson. LEFT: Damonte Ranch High senior Teila Irwin with her parents, Daphne LaPointe and Tom Irwin.

Photo by Tyler Leck

Photos by Jean Dixon

## University named sponsor in National Merit Scholarship Program

The University of Nevada, Reno was officially notified of its approval for sponsorship status by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation this spring. Scholarships awarded through National Merit programs are regarded as some of the highest academic honors attainable by U.S. high school students. All National Merit Scholarship Finalists have academic test scores in the top 1.5 percent in the nation.

The University's student body currently includes 18 National Merit Scholars, the largest number ever enrolled at Nevada. The University plans to welcome about 10 more National Merit Scholarship Finalists from Nevada this fall. The National Merit Scholarship Corporation requires each sponsoring school to award at least three National Merit Scholarships each year.

"Really bright students lift the level of the educational experience for everyone," said Uni-

versity President Milton Glick. "As you achieve a critical mass of these students, teachers begin to teach differently. They have higher expectations and students respond accordingly."

When Glick joined Nevada in 2006, he issued a challenge to recruit more National Merit Scholars. Following a two-year effort to recruit these highly qualified and academically well-prepared students, Nevada now joins the sponsor schools included as part of recruitment materials sent to students across the country who are contending for National Merit Scholarships. Currently, nearly 300 corporations, company foundations and businesses and about 200 colleges and universities provide National Merit Scholarships.

This spring, the University held its first-ever "Nevada Scholars Signing Days" at area high schools—reminiscent of top high school athletes' "signing days"—to recognize National

Merit Scholarship Finalists and Presidential Scholars and celebrate their choice to attend the University.

Signing Day events were held at Davidson Academy of Nevada, Reno High School, Edward C. Reed High School and Damonte Ranch High School.

One of the National Merit Scholarship Finalists, Christopher Salls of Reed High School, said he chose Nevada because "it has a great math program and some really good physics too. Best of all, it's close to home."

It probably didn't hurt that Salls' parents, Mitchell and Jennifer, are also Nevada alumni.

For more information, visit the National Merit Scholarship Program Web site at [www.nationalmerit.org](http://www.nationalmerit.org) or the University's Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships Web site at [www.finaid.unr.edu](http://www.finaid.unr.edu).

—Natalie Savidge '04





## Spring Commencement—a celebration of 1,800-plus graduates

The University's 2009 Spring Commencement, May 15-16, celebrated the accomplishments of more than 1,800 candidates for bachelor's and advanced degrees at Nevada.

The University awarded 1,402 bachelor's degree candidates and 441 advanced degree candidates (for the master's and doctoral degrees, as well as the education specialist certificate) during its 119th commencement exercises on the University Quad.

The 2009 Herz Gold Medalist, Ashish Francis '09 (biochemistry), will attend the University of Nevada School of Medicine. The medal, the University's oldest and most prestigious student award, has been presented since

1910 to the graduating senior with the highest grade-point average.

During this year's undergraduate degree ceremony, 17 teachers representing Nevada's school districts received the President's Medal on behalf of all teachers, along with Washoe County School District Superintendent Paul Dugan and Wilton Herz of the Herz Gold Medal family. The medallion, cast in Nevada-mined silver, honors individuals who have contributed substantially to the advancement of the campus. Nevada introduced the President's Medal, designed by emeritus art professor Jim McCormick, at the inauguration of President



Photos by Theresa Danna-Douglas

Wilton Herz '55 (business administration), right, received the President's Medal at the spring undergraduate degree ceremony.

Joseph Crowley in 1979.

This year also marked the Golden Reunion for the Class of 1959. More than 45 graduates celebrated the 50 years since their undergraduate commencement. Included in this year's Golden Reunion class were Jim Santini, a former U.S. congressman from Nevada, and Richard Bryan, former Nevada attorney general, governor and state and U.S. senator.

—Natalie Savidge '04

## David Tomac Memorial BBQ

September 11 means different things to different people. September 11 was the birth of our friend, David Tomac, who met with an untimely death when he was killed as the result of the Maaco Auto Painting and Body Works explosion 10 years ago. For those of you who knew David, you probably knew him as a great son and brother, a loyal friend and a fun-time guy who was a Grateful Dead fan, bartender and a hard worker.

If you were one of the many people who was touched by David and you would like to share the good times, please come join family and friends at the 10th Annual and final David Tomac Memorial BBQ on

Saturday, Sept. 12 at the Sigma Nu Fraternity, 1075 Ralston, at 4 p.m. Proceeds from this event go to scholarships at the University of Nevada, Reno David Tomac Endowed Scholarship. Just like David would like it, this is a family event with games for kids, a live auction and a wonderful dinner that includes beverages and dessert. The cost is \$40 per person, \$75 per couple, children 10 and under free.

To RSVP, contact the organizing committee: Chairman Buzz Harris '90, Pat Martinez '95, Dario Rissone '89, Kelly Bland '91, Stacey Rissone Tilzey, Jeff Tomac '93 MA, Christi Nachtsheim Gough '87, Mary Games '83, Mike Steedman '86 and Arjun Dhirga '02 by email to [jptwrestle@charter.net](mailto:jptwrestle@charter.net) or call (775) 690-3573.



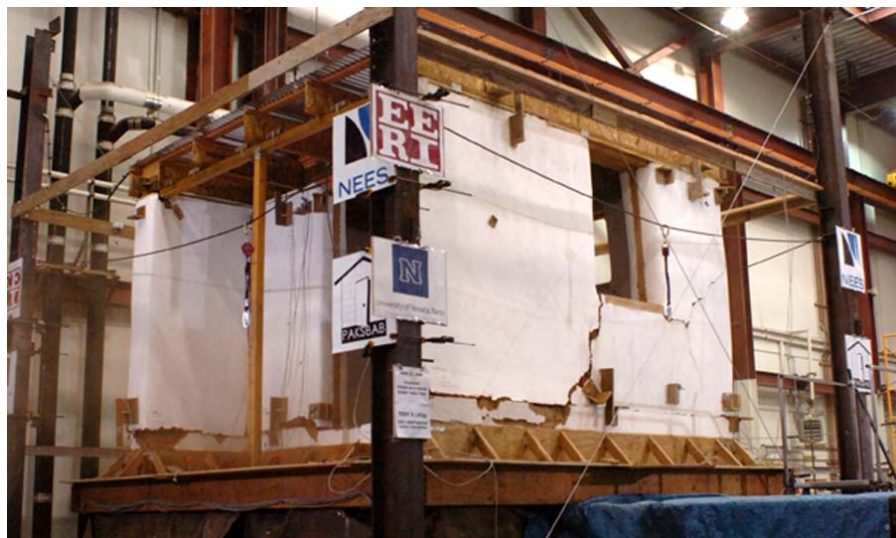


Photo by Mike Wolterbeek

## Straw-bale house survives violent shaking at earthquake lab

In 2006, Darcey Donovan '06M.S. finished her thesis presentation for her master's degree in civil engineering at the University of Nevada, Reno and two hours later was on a plane to Pakistan to build straw-bale houses. This past March she built another straw-bale house, just as she has done in Pakistan, but this time in the University's world-renowned Large Structures Laboratory with its 82-ton-force shake tables.

The full-scale, 14-by-14-foot house, complete with gravel foundation and clay plaster walls, was the subject of seismic experiments to see how it would fare in large earthquakes. Donovan, a practicing engineer since 1986, was inspired to design and build the structures after hearing about the devastating, magnitude 7.6 Kashmir earthquake in 2005 that killed 75,000 people and left 3 million people homeless or living in tents.

"Our goal is to get the largest number of poor people into earthquake-safe homes," said the Truckee, Calif., resident who earned a master of science in civil engineering from the University in 2006. "We want to make it as affordable as possible so they build a safe home. We want to save lives."

University scientists in the lab carefully and painstakingly placed the simple house, with only its hay bales and some fishnet for structural support, atop one of the four shake tables. The lab technicians dialed up the pressure and subjected it to twice the acceleration and shaking as recorded at the

1994 Northridge, Calif. Earthquake—at 6.7 magnitude deemed one of the largest, measured ground accelerations in the world. After a series of seven increasingly forceful tests, in the final powerful simulation the house shook and swayed violently, cracked at the seams and sent out a small cloud of dust and straw ... and remained standing.

"We're very pleased with the results," said Donovan, founder/CEO of the nonprofit Pakistan Straw Bale and Appropriate Building organization. "The house performed exceptionally well and survived 0.82g (0.82 times the acceleration of gravity). The Geological Survey of Pakistan estimates the 2005 Kashmir earthquake to have had peak-ground accelerations in the range of 0.3 to 0.6g.

Donovan's straw-bale homes in Pakistan's northwest provinces are made of materials readily available in the region and do not require skilled labor for construction. The energy-efficient buildings are half the cost of conventional earthquake-safe construction. The Pakistan group also trains local residents to build the homes.

—Mike Wolterbeek '02

*More Information: The non-profit PAKSBAB relies on donations and grants to continue its work. For details, visit [www.paksbab.org](http://www.paksbab.org).*

## Faces on the Quad

### BRITTANY PUZEY

Senior Brittany Puzey, a three-year member of the Nevada Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, compiled a school-record 20-game hitting streak this spring for the Nevada softball team. The Minden resident also received a Lowe's Senior CLASS award nomination in March for her four-year commitment as a student-athlete. She held a cumulative 3.7 grade-point average within her psychology major and a 3.2 overall, cumulative GPA entering Spring 2009. Puzey is part of a five-athlete senior class on the team that won 145 games during the past four seasons and competed in three of the last four NCAA tournaments. She hopes to attend graduate school and pursue a doctorate in clinical psychology.



### MATTHEW POLASKO

The biochemistry and molecular biology major has received a 2009 Goldwater Scholarship, a national undergraduate award in the fields of mathematics, natural sciences and engineering. A 20-year old Honors Program student from Las Vegas, Polasko will receive a two-year scholarship of up to \$7,500



annually. In just his second academic year at the University, but considered a senior because of his academic aptitude, Polasko is the only awardee from Nevada. He plans to pursue the combined M.D./Ph.D. degree in transplant immunology, and then research strategies for suppressing the immune system while prolonging graft tolerance in transplant patients. Polasko's long-term goal is to set up a clinic in Nevada for such patients.



*Gender, Race and Identity program leader Mary Stewart with students Marquez Eagles, Erin Lewis and Ann Newsome.*

"We have some of the most productive scholars at the University involved," Stewart said. "A lot of the newer, younger faculty really like the idea of studying all the intersections of race, class and gender, and the constructions of identity. It's very creative work."

"We offer faculty a place to make some very important connections, and the students are very happy to see minor [program] areas come under a larger umbrella so they have a chance to develop," Stewart said.

"Majors have been growing in women's studies, and the number of minors in ethnic studies is quite large," Stewart said. "The new program will expand upon the relationships between those areas."

"We would like to expand the peace studies component to include classes on conflict and dispute mediation," she said. "That would be very helpful in today's environment."

*For more about the Gender, Race and Identity program, visit <http://www.unr.edu/cia/womenstudies>.*

—Skyler Dillon

## New opportunity to examine link between identity and society

A new master's degree and a 12-credit, graduate certificate program in gender, race and identity combines two previous programs and will be available in Fall 2009 for students who hope to better understand the diverse interactions between their individuality and society.

"We really want our students to understand the intersections between structural factors and the way people experience their lives," said Mary Stewart, moving from the directorship of the University's Women's Studies program to lead the Gender, Race and Identity program.

"Where one is located in the social/political system shapes the person's life, opportunities, perceptions, and experiences."

Under the new program, Women's Studies will expand to include Ethnic Studies, Religious Studies and Holocaust, Genocide and Peace Studies courses. Stewart said the change accommodates interdisciplinary work that occurs among the four fields.

Students will choose a mentor among professors from various departments such as English, anthropology and philosophy.

Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas

## Half of Davidson Academy graduating class to continue studies at University

The Davidson Academy of Nevada—a free, public school for profoundly gifted young students on the University of Nevada, Reno campus—celebrated its first graduating class of eight students May 5 at the Jot Travis Building. Four of the high school-level graduates at Davidson, which this year has a student body ranging in age from 9 to 17, will attend Nevada for their undergraduate studies.

Graduates Andrew George, Cody Nolan, Kestrel Schmidt and Andy Wei will continue their academic careers at Nevada. Of the eight graduates, six have attended the academy since its opening in 2006.

"I'm really excited to graduate and move on to the University of Nevada full time, but I'll miss the Davidson Academy a lot," said Wei, also a National Merit Scholarship Finalist. "I've had a great time at the academy and made friends that I know I'll have for the rest of my life."

One of the first public schools of its kind in the nation, the academy opened with a class of 35 students. Approximately half of the current 69 students are from northern Nevada and the others moved with their families to Reno to attend the academy. Officials have accepted 20 new students for the 2009-10 school year.



Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas

*Celebrating the Davidson Academy's first graduating class, clockwise from left: Andrew George, Cody Nolan, Andy Wei, Academy Director Colleen Harsin, Annaliese Brasil, Emma Schmelzer, Melanie Malinas, Rachel Ellison, University President Milton Glick, Academy co-founder Jan Davidson and Kestrel Schmidt.*

"It has been a privilege to work with these students and watch them thrive," said Colleen Harsin, the academy's director. "Several of them have already earned enough college credit to be classified as upper-classmen—there's no telling how far they will go."

—Natalie Savidge '04



## Sports medicine program to expand with building purchase

A generous donation has made it possible for the University of Nevada, Reno to acquire the Reno Orthopaedic Clinic sports medicine building, located at the south end of the Mackay Stadium complex on campus. The purchase positions the University to develop an expanded and enhanced sports medicine program.

The bargain purchase price for the building, owned by University Investors, was \$737,500. Based on an appraisal that valued the facility at \$2.9 million, University Investors' donation

to the University is valued at \$2.1 million.

The 8,700-square-foot building opened in 1992, when seven of the clinic's doctors formed University Investors and paved the way for construction of the facility, which is leased to the ROC. Over the years, student-athletes have been among the patients receiving medical and orthopedic care in the building. The ROC physicians also taught clinics and served as team physicians for Wolf Pack games.

"The Reno Orthopaedic Clinic physicians have generously contributed their time and expertise and supported

*Individuals involved in securing the agreement include: Dan Klaich '72, chancellor, Nevada System of Higher Education; Drs. James Greenwald, Richard Blakey and Lex Simpson with Reno Orthopaedic Clinic/University Investors; Deane Albright '71, certified public accountant for Reno Orthopaedic Clinic/University Investors; and Milton Glick, University president.*

a myriad of University programs," Dan Klaich, chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education, said. "Not only were they generous, they were innovative. They developed a model program that has served the community and countless student-athletes, and it now provides the basis for the next iteration of sports medicine at the University."

—Jane Tors '82



Photo by Brandon Stewart

## University of Nevada, Reno **Performing Arts Series** | 2009-10

The Performing Arts Series brings some of the world's finest performers to the University's Nightingale Concert Hall. Season Ticket discounts available — call (775) 784-4ART.

[www.unr.edu/pas](http://www.unr.edu/pas)

- Pablo Ziegler Trio**  
Thursday, September 17
- Carducci String Quartet**  
Thursday, October 22
- ◀ **Esperanza Spalding**  
Wednesday, November 4
- Spanish Brass**  
Thursday, February 4
- On Ensemble**  
Thursday, March 4

Photo by Johann Sauty

## Athletic Academic Center achieves LEED

The Marguerite Wattis Petersen Athletic Academic Center is the first University building to receive Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) Silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. The center is one of just three LEED-certified projects in Reno.

"The University's intention is to incorporate sustainable design elements in all construction projects," said Jim Mickey '85AA, WorthGroup's principal architect for the project. "It is a philosophy that we share and we are proud of the accomplishments of this project."

The LEED is a rating system that is the national standard for design, construction and operation of high-performance, 'green'

buildings. As an example of green design, natural daylight is the primary light source in 75 percent of the Petersen Center.

"Each building we open sets a legacy for the future," University President Milt Glick said. "This center signals our commitment to student success as well as to the environment. Green building practices are important for many reasons, and our students have told us these legacy practices are particularly meaningful to them."

The \$6.6 million, privately funded facility features tutorial rooms for Nevada student-athletes' private and group study, a 38-workstation computer lab and 2,000-square-foot study center. Its exterior design significantly contributes to improved handicapped accessibility in



Photo by John Byrne

*Jim Mickey '85A.A., principal architect for the project, explains green design principles at an event celebrating the LEED certification.*

and around the athletic complex.

The Petersen Center is part of the E.L. Cord Foundation Athletic and Academic Performance Complex, which includes the Roger B. Primm Sports Medicine and Strength Center.

WorthGroup Architects designed the facility and the PENTA Building Group led its construction. The University has a second LEED-registered building, a two-story cabin at the 4-H Camp in Stateline.

—Chad Hartley '03

## Silver & Blue Society



**Bound by their shared commitment to the University of Nevada, Reno, members of the Silver & Blue Society assist the institution in addressing a broad range of needs—including future needs that often cannot be anticipated at the time gifts are made.**

To recognize these individuals, the Silver & Blue Society was formed to honor those who give an annual unrestricted gift of \$1,874 or more. Members of the Silver & Blue Society provide for scholarships, new academic programs, innovative learning opportunities, faculty recruitment and development, and enhancements to

campus, among a host of other areas.

The Silver & Blue Society owes its name to a time when a circle of dedicated men and women helped create the University of Nevada. Established as a land grant institution in 1874, the school depended in part on the vision and support provided by advocates. Many of them knew the value of gifts beyond the government programs that were meant to create a thriving economy for a new western state.

The generosity of individuals makes all the difference in the future of Nevada. Unrestricted funding is a critical resource that supports the University's most pressing needs.

To learn more about the Silver & Blue Society contact Crystal Parrish at (775) 784-1352 or cparrish@unr.edu.





Photo by Jean Dixon

## School of Medicine observes 40 years of educating and training health care professionals

This year marks the University of Nevada School of Medicine's 40th year of providing health care professionals to this state and beyond. Here we look back at our history through this timeline compiled from Dr. Anton's Sohn's book *History of Medicine* and material provided by former *Synapse* editor Lynne Williams.

Anne McMillin, APR, is the public relations manager for the School of Medicine.

**Early 1960s**—The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, whose mission was to review and recommend sites in Western states for higher education institutions, designates the University of Nevada in Reno as the most likely facility that could support a new medical school.

**1965**—Dr. George T. Smith appointed to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing a medical school in Nevada.

**1969**—Board of Regents approve feasibility study and it is adopted by the state Legislature.

**March 25, 1969**—Gov. Paul Laxalt signs Assembly Bill 130 into law to establish a two-year medical school for the Reno campus. Smith appointed first dean.

**Sept. 1971**—The School of Medical Sciences opens with nine full-time and five part-time faculty members, assisted by a large number of volunteer clinical faculty from the Reno community. The charter class had 32 members, including one woman. Teaching affiliations established at hospitals in Reno, Las Vegas, Henderson, Elko and Carson City.

**Spring 1972**—First building on the permanent campus completed and named after Dr. Fred M. Anderson, a prominent physician who worked to establish a Nevada medical school.

**Spring 1973**—The charter class completes its basic sciences, after taking the Part I examination of the National Board of Medical Examiners.

**1974**—The University of Nevada School of Medicine initiates an accredited program in continuing medical education, one of only two

accredited programs in the country to encompass an entire state.

**April 14, 1977**—The Nevada State Legislature passes Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 18, approving the conversion of the medical school to a four-year, medical degree-granting institution.

**1979**—The Office of Rural Health is created to respond to the needs of rural Nevada.

**April 1980**—The Liaison Committee on Medical Education approves a two-year accreditation for the newly developed four-year program.

**May 1980**—The first class of 36 students from the four-year program graduates. School's first residency program, in obstetrics and gynecology, established.

**1982**—Nutrition Education and Research program established by Sachiko St. Jeor, Ph.D.

**Aug. 1982**—Savitt Medical Library building dedicated for Sol and Ella Savitt, longtime supporters of the School and its library.



*LEFT: University of Nevada medical school campus in 2004 with the Pennington Medical Education building as its centerpiece. TOP LEFT: Members of the Health Science Council break ground for the Anderson Building, the first on the new medical school campus, circa 1972. Establishing Dean George T. Smith turns over the first shovel of dirt to begin construction. CENTER: Dean Dr. Thomas Scully, performs a “patient” examination on a baby mannequin as medical student Kent DiFiori and public health nurse Sue Maestratti observe, circa 1975. RIGHT: Dr. V.E. Elliott (President of Nevada State Medical Association), Governor Mike O’Callaghan and Senator Norm Glaser at the presentation of bill making the University of Nevada School of Medicine a four-year program, circa 1979.*

**May 1986**—A seven-year accreditation for the School of Medicine is granted, the longest any medical school can be awarded.

**1988**—School’s genetics program established in both Las Vegas and Reno.

**1989**—Joseph Hume, Ph.D., discovers new chloride channels in the heart and is published in *Science*.

**May 1989**—History of Medicine program established by Dr. Anton Sohn.

**1990**—Drs. Trudy Larson and Steve Zell open an early intervention clinic for HIV-infected and AIDS patients at the Washoe County Health Department. The first operation, using the fetal cell transplantation technique pioneered by researcher Esmail Zanjani, Ph.D., is done to correct an enzyme deficiency in a developing fetus.

**1992**—The School of Medicine, in cooperation with Washoe Medical Center and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, established the state’s first bone marrow transplant unit, directed by Dr. Joao Ascensao.

**1993**—Nevada is one of 14 medical schools nationally selected to receive the Robert Wood Johnson’s Generalist Initiative Award. The \$750,000, three-year grant is used to modify the curriculum to include experience in the ambulatory setting and to attract increasing numbers of students who choose primary care careers.

**1995**—The School of Medicine is awarded \$8.5 million by the National Institutes of Health to take part in a nationwide study of women’s health issues including breast cancer, heart disease and osteoporosis.

**1995**—Tom Kozel, Ph.D., receives the first of two consecutive five-year MERIT awards from National Institutes of Health. MERIT (Methods to Extend Research in Time) awards represent less than two percent of the entire NIH grant portfolio.

**1996**—Community based Northern Nevada HOPES (HIV Outpatient Program, Education and Services) clinic created.

**May 1997**—Nevada State Health Lab, built in 1977, is transferred to the School of Medicine from the State Division of Health.

**1998**—Hume receives MERIT grant from National Institutes of Health.

**1999**—Medical students establish a Student Outreach Clinic to provide care to indigent children as the students learn clinical skills. The clinic is a cooperative effort between the medical school, the Orvis School of Nursing, the School of Social Work and several health care agencies in Reno.

**1999**—The school’s trauma unit at University Medical Center accorded Level I status, putting it on par with trauma centers in Los Angeles, San Diego, Phoenix and Salt Lake City.

**May 2002**—Pennington Medical Education Building opens, named for casino owner William Pennington, who was a major contributor to the building.

**2003**—Nevada State Health Lab in Las Vegas opens; bioterrorism lab established at Clark County Health Department.

**May 2006**—School of Medicine’s Center for Bone Health opens in Reno.

**Aug. 2007**—School of Medicine matriculates its first expanded class of 62 students.

**May 2008**—School of Medicine’s Department of Surgery earns the first acute care surgery fellowship in the nation under the leadership of Dr. William Zamboni, department chair, and Dr. John Fildes, vice chair.

**July 1, 2008**—Division of Health Sciences established at University to create academic synergy among the School of Medicine, Orvis School of Nursing, School of Public Health, School of Social Work, Campus Wellness and Recreation, the Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies, the Center for Program Evaluation, the Gerontology Academic Program and the Nevada Center for Ethics and Health Policies. Dr. John McDonald assumes the role of vice president of health sciences. Dr. Ole Thienhaus appointed dean of the School of Medicine.

**Fall 2008**—The basement of Building B on the University of Nevada Las Vegas Shadow Lane campus is repurposed for a combined medical and nursing clinical skills simulation center.

**Dec. 2008**—Construction begins on the Center for Molecular Medicine in Reno, the first new research building at the School of Medicine in nearly 30 years.

**March 2009**—School of Medicine observes 40 years of providing health care research, education and clinical care for Nevadans.

**Summer 2009**—Legislature and Governor Jim Gibbons provide \$31 million in state funding to match \$11 million in private funding for the new Health Sciences Building in Reno. Oncology fellowship established in Las Vegas. **N**





## Wolf Pack fans have great season ahead

The opening kickoff of the year is still months away, but the anticipation of the 2009 Nevada Wolf Pack football season just keeps growing.

The Wolf Pack is certainly not an overnight sensation. Four bowl game appearances over the past four years have built the program, and its following, considerably. But the potential of this season's schedule coupled with the potential of the Wolf Pack are certainly unmatched by anything in recent memory.

Head coach Chris Ault believes in potential but doesn't live by it. A favorite saying of the longtime face of the program is, "There is a difference between perception and reality and we're not about perception. We are all about reality."

If you ask Ault about the 2009 season and what might be possible, the coach sets his jaw and stares back with a gleam in his steel blue eyes.

"Hang on," he says with a hint of a smile. "Hang on."

The numbers say that Nevada returns 15 starters this season but the numbers belie the importance of who is back in the Silver and Blue this year.

Offensively, Ault's Pistol offense is not lacking for firepower. Starting with junior quarterback Colin Kaepernick, continuing with running backs Vai Taua and Luke Lippincott, Nevada has three players on its roster who have rushed for at least 1,000 yards in a season. And three starters from one of the best offensive lines in the conference return to pave the way.

Defensively, Nevada took a few lumps last season, but all of those young players are now one year older and one year wiser this season. Junior defensive ends Kevin Basped and Dontay Moch were among the nation's leaders last season in tackles for loss and they will spearhead an attacking defense.

Nevada has had talented teams before. It's had tough schedules before, too—but this time around is different. This talented squad is facing a schedule that poses some intriguing matchups and creates a multitude of reasons for optimism and excitement.

It starts with the season opener at, of all places, Notre Dame. Nevada will travel, with numerous fans in tow, to perhaps the most hallowed ground in all of college football. The Notre Dame campus is close to South Bend, Ind. and the College Football Hall of Fame, where Ault himself is enshrined.

After a bye week and then a road trip to Colorado State, the Wolf Pack begins its defense of Mackay Stadium when Big 12 powerhouse Missouri comes to Reno—the second straight season that a Big 12 school comes to Mackay.

The annual Battle for the Fremont Cannon follows as the Wolf Pack does battle with in-state rival to the south, UNLV, Oct. 3.

# 2009 Nevada Fall Schedules

## Nevada Football Schedule

Sept. 5	at Notre Dame
Sept. 19	at Colorado State
<b>Sept. 25</b>	<b>Missouri</b>
<b>Oct. 3</b>	<b>UNLV</b>
<b>Oct. 9</b>	<b>Louisiana Tech</b>
Oct. 17	at Utah State
<b>Oct. 24</b>	<b>Idaho (Homecoming)</b>
<b>Oct. 31</b>	<b>Hawai'i</b>
Nov. 8	at San Jose State
<b>Nov. 14</b>	<b>Fresno State</b>
Nov. 21	at New Mexico State
Nov. 27	at Boise State



Kylie Harrington

## Volleyball Schedule

Aug. 28-30	Marriott Courtyard/ Fairfield Invitational vs. UC Irvine vs. St. Mary's at Arizona Tournament
Aug. 28	
Aug. 30	
Sept. 4-5	at Arizona Tournament
<b>Sept. 11-12</b>	<b>AT&amp;T Invitational</b>
<b>Sept. 11</b>	<b>vs. UC Davis</b>
<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>vs. Sam Houston State</b>
<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>vs. Portland State</b>
Sept. 18-19	at Pacific Tournament
Sept. 22	at Sacramento State
<b>Sept. 26</b>	<b>Fresno State</b>
Oct. 1	at New Mexico State
Oct. 3	at Louisiana Tech
Oct. 8	at Hawai'i
<b>Oct. 10</b>	<b>Utah State</b>
<b>Oct. 15</b>	<b>Boise State</b>
<b>Oct. 17</b>	<b>Idaho</b>
Oct. 22	at Idaho
Oct. 24	at Boise State
<b>Oct. 29</b>	<b>San Jose State</b>
<b>Oct. 31</b>	<b>Hawai'i</b>
<b>Nov. 5</b>	<b>UNLV</b>
Nov. 7	at San Jose State
Nov. 9	at Fresno State
<b>Nov. 12</b>	<b>New Mexico State</b>
<b>Nov. 14</b>	<b>Louisiana Tech</b>
Nov. 19	at Utah State
Nov. 23-25	at WAC Tournament (Las Vegas)

(Home Games in Bold)

Visit [nevadawolfpack.com](http://nevadawolfpack.com)  
for more info.



LEFT: Juniors Kevin Basped (99) and Dontay Moch (55) were among the nation's leaders in sacks last year. TOP: Junior quarterback Colin Kaepernick was the 2008 WAC Offensive Player of the Year.

Nevada has won four straight meetings in the series.

From there, conference play begins as Nevada will host the likes of Fresno State, Louisiana Tech and Hawai'i. The season culminates at WAC-rival Boise State on the Friday after Thanksgiving.

The schedule comes loaded with numerous television appearances, including five on national television. The opener at Notre Dame will be on NBC while ESPN will broadcast Nevada's games against Missouri, Louisiana Tech and San Jose State. The Wolf Pack's showdown at Boise State will be on ESPN2.

Season tickets for the 2009 Wolf Pack football season are on sale now by visiting or calling the Link Piazza Ticket Office at Legacy Hall at (775) 348-PACK (7225). [N](#)

—Chad Hartley '03, assistant director of  
Media Services



Devin Noe

## Women's Soccer Schedule

<b>Aug. 16</b>	<b>Chico State (Exh.)</b>
Aug. 21	at California
<b>Aug. 28</b>	<b>UC Santa Barbara</b>
<b>Aug. 30</b>	<b>UC Irvine</b>
Sept. 4	at Oregon State
Sept. 6	at Portland State
<b>Sept. 11</b>	<b>Fordham</b>
<b>Sept. 13</b>	<b>Sacramento State</b>
Sept. 18	at Minnesota
<b>Sept. 20</b>	<b>vs. North Dakota</b>
Sept. 24	at Saint Mary's
Sept. 27	at UC Davis
<b>Oct. 4</b>	<b>Utah State</b>
Oct. 9	at Idaho
Oct. 11	at Boise State
<b>Oct. 16</b>	<b>San Jose State</b>
<b>Oct. 18</b>	<b>Fresno State</b>
Oct. 23	at Hawai'i
Oct. 30	at New Mexico State
<b>Nov. 1</b>	<b>Louisiana Tech</b>
Nov. 5-8	at WAC Tournament (Boise, Idaho)





Photo by John Byrne

## Matt Bowman, Dellena Criner win Nevada's top senior awards

Matt Bowman and Dellena Criner have been named the 2008-09 Doc Martie & Ruth I. Russell Award winners as the University of Nevada, Reno's top male and female student-athletes.

"Matt and Dellena have had outstanding collegiate careers and are very deserving of our athletics department's most prestigious awards," said athletics director Cary Groth. "Both Matt and Dellena are outstanding examples of everything that a student-athlete should be. They have played key roles in the success of their teams and have excelled in competition, the classroom and the community throughout their careers."

The awards were named for J.E. "Doc" Martie, a former Nevada men's basketball coach and administrator, and Ruth I. Russell, a former director of women's athletics. Student-athletes are nominated by their head coaches and must be in their final year of eligibility and in good academic standing. The award winners are chosen in a vote by the athletics department staff.

A senior outfielder and infielder from Dayton, Nev., Bowman was a four-year starter and four-time Academic All-WAC honoree. He

hit his 63rd career double in May to move past former Wolf Pack player and current Toronto Blue Jay Lyle Overbay (1996-99) to become Nevada's career record holder in the category. A second-team All-WAC honoree as an outfielder in 2008, Bowman also ended his time at Nevada ranked in the Wolf Pack top five for career at bats, runs scored, hits, stolen bases and games played. In his senior year, he led the team in doubles and home runs, had the team's third-best batting average and graduated in May with his degree in accounting.

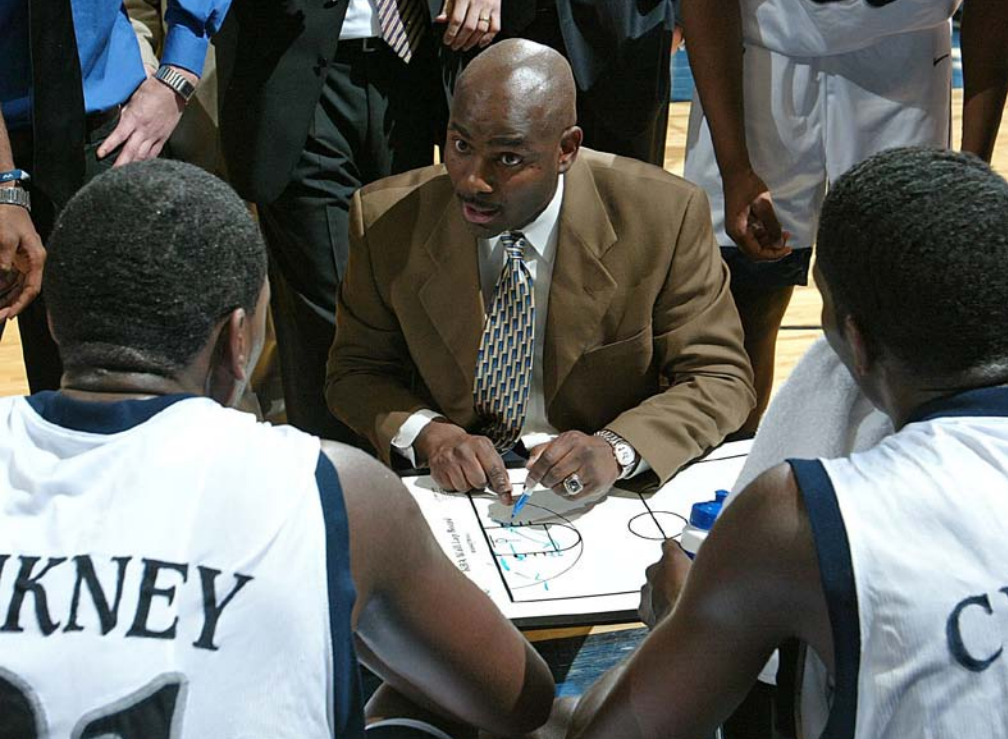
"Matt Bowman has been the model for what you would want a student-athlete to be," Wolf Pack baseball coach Gary Powers said. "He has been outstanding on the field as a player, teammate and leader by example giving 100 percent of himself to his team every day he has been here. He has been consistently solid in the classroom and an outstanding citizen and tremendous representative of our institution both on and off the field of play. He has been one of the most enjoyable people I have had the pleasure to coach and be associated with in my 27 years of service at Nevada. This is a well deserved honor, and we will surely miss him."

A senior guard from Oakland, Calif., Criner

was named the WAC Defensive Player of the Year in each of her last two seasons at Nevada. She also earned first-team All-WAC and WAC All-Academic honors three times during her career. A regional finalist for the 2009 Women's Basketball Coaches Association All-America team and one of 30 finalists for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award, Criner became the first player in school history to record at least 1,500 career points, 350 career assists and 250 career steals. She ended her career as Nevada's leader in all-time steals and games played, ranked second in career free throws made, third in assists (375) and fourth in scoring (1,629). Criner led the team in scoring in each of her last three seasons at Nevada and graduated in May with a degree in accounting.

"Dellena is an exceptional student-athlete who is very deserving of this prestigious award," Nevada women's basketball coach Jane Albright said. "She is a true difference maker, and her influence has been great in all aspects of our program. Dellena blessed us all with her leadership, dedication, personality, talent and character, and we will miss her greatly."

—Rhonda Lundin, assistant athletics director for Media Services



Photos by John Byrne

# Carter takes over the helm of Wolf Pack basketball

Wolf Pack Director of Athletics Cary Groth didn't have far to look to find someone who embodies everything that she was looking for in Nevada's new men's basketball coach.

In fact, the ideal candidate was sitting just one seat away from former Nevada head coach Mark Fox on the Wolf Pack bench: associate head coach David Carter. Carter has spent the last 10 years as an assistant coach for the Wolf Pack, including four as Nevada's associate head coach under Fox.

"I knew I was looking for a person with great integrity, basketball knowledge and experience, respect, enthusiasm, a great recruiter and one who understands and supports the mission of the University," Groth said on April 3 when she announced that Carter would become the 17th head coach in Nevada men's basketball history. "Both President Glick and I had conversations with David Carter, and we believe that Coach Carter exemplifies those qualities plus some that we need to move the University of Nevada men's basketball program forward," "Coach Carter has dedicated 10 years of his career to building the Wolf Pack men's basketball program," she said. "He is a players' coach and one who understands the importance of building character in young men. He understands the importance of a college degree and will not accept anything less."

Carter takes the reins of a Wolf Pack program that has posted six consecutive

20-win seasons and seven straight postseason appearances. He has played an integral role in Nevada's five Western Athletic Conference titles and four NCAA Tournament invitations. He has also been recognized as one of the top assistant coaches in the nation, making FOXSports.com's list of the top 10 Mid-Major Assistant Coaches in 2007-08 and being named the best assistant coach in the Western Athletic Conference in Street's & Smith's in 2004-05.

While every head coach puts his own unique stamp on a program, Carter promises fans that the core values that have made the Wolf Pack basketball program so successful will not change.

"It is truly an honor and a privilege to have the opportunity to lead this program. I am thankful to everyone at the University and in this community for supporting me," Carter said. "I've been here for 10 years and have been waiting for this opportunity. This program is not going backwards, I promise you that. The values and expectations are the same as they were last year and the same as they were 10 years ago. We expect three things from these young men: to graduate and walk away from here with a degree, to be great citizens in the community, on campus and on the court, and to compete and play harder than our opponents.

"I'm going to continue to recruit quality young men who are student-athletes,

*New men's basketball coach David Carter has spent the past 10 seasons with the Wolf Pack program, first as an assistant coach under Trent Johnson and then as associate head coach under Mark Fox.*

and we're going to compete every year for a championship and the postseason. Those have always been our goals, and we are going to continue that. I'm built to win championships. I won in high school, I won in college and I've won here as a coach, so I expect to continue to win."

Carter came to the Wolf Pack in 1999 after spending two seasons as an assistant at his alma mater, Saint Mary's College, in Moraga, Calif. He also had coaching stints at Eastern Washington University and Diablo Valley Community College.

Carter played four years (1985-89) at Saint Mary's, helping the Gaels to an NCAA Tournament berth, a 25-5 record and a No. 17 national ranking in 1989. A four-year starter at point guard and team captain, Carter also set the school record for career assists at Saint Mary's, a record that stood from 1989-97, and currently ranks second all time for the Gaels. Carter was inducted into the Saint Mary's Athletics Hall of Fame in 2006. He received his bachelor of arts in liberal studies from Saint Mary's in 1989.

Carter played high school basketball at Crenshaw High School in Los Angeles, one of the most prominent programs in the country. In three years at Crenshaw, his teams lost only five games and won state championships in 1983 and 1985.

—Rhonda Lundin, assistant athletics director for Media Services





## Nevada home grown

*Rural farmers and Las Vegas chefs partner to enhance local economies*

**“Get started now... grow something...”**

Paula and Rodney Pudwill have this advice for homeowners and suburban farmers with a backyard or a few acres on which to grow herbs or vegetables. The demand for locally grown produce is so great, say the owners of Penguin Produce, that you can't help but sell it to farmer's markets, retail outlets or restaurants.

*Alice Good '78 is an emerita communications specialist with Cooperative Extension.*

The Pudwills, owners of a two-acre “boutique” farm in southern Nevada's Sandy

Valley, started small a few years ago with a handful of herbs. Today they get up with the sun six days a week to cut, wash, package and deliver a custom order of herbs to high-end restaurants 50 miles away in Las Vegas. Chefs clamor for the Pudwills' herbs, which include basil, tarragon and chervil, but also exotic varieties such as lovage and nepitella—all ordered the night before.

A team of University faculty has played a major part in the produce-to-market concept taking root in Nevada. With more than half-a-million-dollars from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other sources, they launched “Niche Products for Direct Markets: A Sustainable Opportunity for Small Desert Farmers.” Its goal is to stimulate horticulture production and establish marketing channels that address the needs of urban and rural residents and support the Nevada economy.

### The market: burgeoning Las Vegas

A fast-growing city in a fast-growing state, Las Vegas is home to two million people and attracts 40 million visitors each year. It has one of the largest food service industries in North

America, yet virtually all the food imported by the city comes from distances greater than 250 miles. In recent years, Nevada has collected more taxes from retail sales and dining than from gambling as a result of the megaresort transformation on the strip.

“Our research and demonstration orchard initially provided opportunities for Las Vegas chefs to realize you can grow quality fruit and vegetables in the hot desert,” says Bob Morris, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension horticulturist. “This opened their eyes to the possibilities, and a number of the chefs are now willing to look at local products instead of buying everything out of state.”

Morris added that one of the challenges has been establishing routes for getting products safely to the Las Vegas market. The other issue is stimulating production.

Cooperative Extension piloted a study to help bridge the gap between local farmers and gourmet restaurants. Researchers found that chefs are willing to pay a higher price to obtain the quantity and quality desired. They need producers to let them know which products are available, and when, so they can plan seasonal menus a week in advance. The chefs





*LEFT: Cooperative Extension's Mike Budreau points out the curly top disease problem in some Panaca plots. TOP: Lincoln County Extension Educator Holly Gatzke teaches local farmers how to produce during the winter in a hoop house. RIGHT: Producers Christine and Rodney Mehring show off their tomatoes in a hoop house on their facility near Caliente. A hoop house can improve crop quality by reducing wind and pests and extending the growing season.*

the menu. They want a close relationship with farmers to ensure reliable shipments of quality produce at regular intervals.

## The producers: a need for diversification

"Net farm income in rural Nevada has fluctuated over the past three years and does not show an increasing trend," says Kynda Curtis, state extension economist and assistant professor in the Department of Resource Economics.

"Producers in desert regions need to diversify their operations to increase returns which will lead to sustainable farms. Experience in other states has shown that direct marketing to consumers through farmer's markets, gourmet restaurants and specialty stores can provide growers with a dependable, higher-end market."

Since the inception of the produce-to-market program four years ago, there has been an immense amount of activity among local growers. Farmer's markets in Nevada have expanded from eight to 26 across the state. Chefs in Las Vegas and Reno are purchasing from local producers. Nevada farmers have expanded their use of local markets, which has stabilized income and provided new opportunities.

Jesse Scott, with the Buckhorn Ranch in Alamo, started initially with several hundred pounds of squash and later beets, and then began selling milk and cream.



"When working with chefs, I establish a relationship, listen and watch the types of products they're using in the kitchens," Scott says. "I deliver to Las Vegas Monday and Friday afternoons, bringing them quality products. Then I take their kitchen compost and cooking oil back to the farm to make biodiesel."

Doug Taylor, executive pastry chef at the B & B Ristorante and Carnevino in Las Vegas envisions great potential in the chef-farmer collaboration.

"I started with one farmer nearly two years ago and now there are 21 farms involved in the program," says Taylor. "Each farm offers something different and exciting each season. We are building an agriculture community. The demand is present, the hotels want it and our community wants it. We will have fresher food because it's local, we will know the hands that feed us, and we can control what goes in and what comes out of the ground."

"This is building a community for the future of this city." **N**

*For more information on the produce-to-market program, contact Holly Gatzke, (775) 726-3109, or [gatzkeh@unce.unr.edu](mailto:gatzkeh@unce.unr.edu).*

were concerned about the potential quality and consistency of local products due to the harsh climate.

The study found that nearly all the surveyed growers wanted to enter the gourmet market as suppliers, but were unsure how to proceed. They wanted to determine which products interest chefs and restaurants, the quantities and packaging desired and the timing and delivery methods preferred.

"So we conducted classes for farmers on how to market fresh products to local restaurants, demonstrated production methods for small-scale producers, and arranged tours of gourmet restaurant kitchens on the strip," says Holly Gatzke, Lincoln County extension educator, who has also conducted field days and demonstration sites to educate farmers.

Eighteen growers from rural counties in southern Nevada toured the top five restaurants at Caesars Palace, discussing food preferences and marketing issues. This tour confirmed there is a strong demand for locally grown, fresh, vine- or branch-ripened, flavorful products. The chefs indicated they prefer Nevada products with the name of the farm on



## Seniors CAN

### Use it or lose it.

The kind of advice your mother probably gave you. But as our population ages, these words take on particular poignancy. Finding ongoing mental challenges to keep the brain engaged is crucial to staying mentally alert later in life. Armed with this information, increasing numbers of older adults are finding opportunities for lifelong learning through community education.

Take Seniors CAN, for example—a life-skills training program that helps older adults maintain high-quality independent living by enhancing their mental acuity and mastery. This hands-on program was developed nearly 10 years ago in southern Nevada. To date, the Seniors CAN program has reached more than 2,000 individuals in Nevada, and more than 125 copies of the curriculum have been sold nationwide and in Canada.

“People who go through our program report less stress and loneliness,” says originator Claudia Collins, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension aging

*Alice Good '78 is an emerita communications specialist with Cooperative Extension.*

specialist. “The participants feel better and more confident, which can lead to living longer and enjoying life more.

“The crux of the project’s success is the incorporating of lesson-

related information into seniors’ daily experiences—converting abstract concepts into practical application.”

### Meeting a critical need in southern Nevada

Southern Nevada’s Clark County is one of the country’s fastest growing communities and has evolved into one of the nation’s top retirement destinations. One of every four new residents and more than 26 percent of the county population of two million people



*Claudia Collins, far right, demonstrates how specific foods can be used to improve overall health and well-being.*

is 55 years of age or older. Many of these older adults, particularly the new residents, lack traditional support structures such as friends and relatives.

Seniors CAN, a four-month program, is offered in English and Spanish at community sites such as senior centers, older-adult housing and hospital outreach centers. The small class size of 20 participants shapes the program through ongoing evaluations that rely heavily upon feedback from seniors. New topics and information are constantly being added as a result of input from the participants. The 15-lesson program includes nutrition, personal safety, food safety, financial strategies, health and wellness and active aging techniques. The weekly, two-hour sessions are based on teaching principles that are designed to enhance cognitive function in older adults.

One woman summed up her experiences with the following comment, “I’m 81 and I learn so many things that help me day-to-day. You’d think at my age I’d know more!”

### Achieving a higher quality of life for older adults

Seniors CAN appeals to elders from a wide variety of ethnic, socio-economic and educational backgrounds, but most are managing on a limited income. Seventy percent of participants report a household income less than \$20,000 a year, with 23 percent under \$10,000.

Evaluation data of nearly 960 participants from 83 program sites, including low-income housing and senior centers in urban and rural Clark County, suggest the following results:


- Statistically significant improvements were found following the intervention, with participants demonstrating increased mastery and knowledge and decreased loneliness and stress; and
- The lowest-income participants (35 percent) and minority seniors (32 percent) demonstrated the greatest levels of improvement.



Photo by Heidi Petermeier

*Claudia Collins listens to questions from Seniors CAN participants.*

“While the quantitative results of the program demonstrated statistical improvements in health-related characteristics, even more striking is the amazing change in self-confidence, socializing with peers and an enthusiastic approach toward life reflected by participants,” Collins says. “They make changes in their eating behaviors, their interaction with health professionals and, generally, reflect a renewed sense of self-assurance.”

“This program has jarred me out of my comfort zone, and opened up a whole new world of information,” reported an 86-year-old man who is now a lifelong learner. 

For more information on Seniors CAN, contact Claudia Collins, (702) 257-5531, or [collinsc@unce.unr.edu](mailto:collinsc@unce.unr.edu).

## Aging study uncovers multiple needs and gaps in services

Nevada has the fastest growing senior population in the country. At the turn of the century, Nevada had 218,929 citizens who were age 65 or older. By 2030, this number is expected to be 797,179 ... an increase of 264 percent.

Each generation of older adults is living longer, increasing the likelihood that they will experience higher rates of chronic illness and functional disability than earlier generations.

In 2006, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension conducted an extensive assessment of aging issues in Nevada, using forums with key community leaders to help determine present and future needs as well as gaps in the state’s aging programs and coordination of aging services.

Survey findings indicated that Cooperative Extension could make a significant contribution to Nevada’s older citizens and their families by complementing existing programs and services in various ways. Cooperative Extension is positioned to provide statewide training, education and research in the areas of health, nutrition, financial management, well-being, social policy, ethnic differences in aging and to help build capacity in organizations, agencies and communities.

“Cooperative Extension is exploring ways to move forward with a comprehensive statewide aging program,” said Dean Karen Hinton. “However, we must collaborate and partner with other groups to effectively implement the strategies identified in the assessment.”

To get started, Cooperative Extension and community college faculty and graduate students are developing a pilot program to train volunteers across Nevada—including librarians, senior center managers and others—on how to most effectively teach our growing older-adult population.

For a copy of the executive summary or a full report of the study, contact Karen Hinton, (775) 784-7070, or [hintonk@unce.unr.edu](mailto:hintonk@unce.unr.edu), or Jeanne Hilton, Cooperative Extension aging program specialist and professor of social work, (775) 722-3555 or [hilton@unr.edu](mailto:hilton@unr.edu).

—Alice Good ‘78





Award-winning College of Business Associate Professor Jim Sundali pictured here with former College of Business dean and NSHE Vice Chancellor of Finance Mike Reed, and Warren Buffett.

brings a high level of quality to our programs.”

Sundali has 10 years of experience teaching bargaining and negotiation as part of the Advanced Management Program, which he says offers working professionals—many of whom have not taken a course on campus in years—an opportunity to return to the University and to learn about the psychology and biases behind how decisions are made.

Sundali also taught students living in the Carson City/Douglas County area as an instructor for the College of Business’ MBA Cohort Program, through which 16 students have earned MBAs from the University without having to commute to Reno for classes.

“The Minden MBA was a great program for all involved,” Sundali says. “It was a strong cohort and an interesting group of people.”

Since joining the University faculty in 2000, Sundali has earned awards and honors including the 2008 College of Business Graduate Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award and the 2006 B.J. Fuller College of Business Undergraduate Teaching Award. He earned a Ph.D. in management and policy with a minor in finance from the University of Arizona and an MBA from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. In addition, Sundali volunteers time to serve on a community investment panel for United Way.

Sundali’s research interests include judgment and decision-making, game theory, experimental economics and behavioral finance. He teaches graduate and undergraduate courses including business strategy and policy, bargaining and negotiation, organizations and the natural environment, managerial decision making, corporate finance, and managerial and leadership insights from film and literature, and has published nearly 20 journal articles and chapters in professional publications.

For more information visit [www.business.unr.edu](http://www.business.unr.edu), [www.extendedstudies.unr.edu](http://www.extendedstudies.unr.edu) and [www.summersession.unr.edu](http://www.summersession.unr.edu).

## Globe-trotting professor extends teaching beyond campus classroom

For Jim Sundali, associate professor of managerial sciences in the University’s College of Business, teaching duties extend far beyond the edge of campus, the end of the workday, and the limits of the fall and spring semesters.

In addition to teaching a section of strategic management and policy on campus during summer session mini-term, Sundali will travel to the University of London in June, where he will teach an advanced seminar in management as part of the college’s four-week Global Business: 2009 International Summer Study in London program, offered in partnership with the University’s Extended Studies.

*Sarah Purdy '02 is a publications writer for Extended Studies.*

“For business students and professors, London is the center of the universe,” Sundali says. “It’s the financial capital of the world, and the program will offer students valuable exposure to global business practices.”

The program focuses on global management, technology and economic policy. Student participants are required to enroll in two classes taught by College of Business faculty to earn six credits upon successful completion. Select afternoons will

be designated for corporate and governmental visits with the balance available for student-directed cultural activities.

“Jim Sundali has been very active in recruiting students for the Summer Study in London program,” says Jim McClenahan, director of management and executive programs for Extended Studies. “We feel very fortunate to have faculty of his caliber joining us—we couldn’t do this without him. The London program will give an international perspective to the University’s business students, while providing an opportunity for working students to earn the credits required to complete their business degrees in a relatively short period of time over the summer.”

According to McClenahan, Sundali has also been a key player in student recruitment and in forging relationships with members of the northern Nevada and international business communities as an instructor for the Advanced Management Program and International Executive Development Program. McClenahan says Sundali’s decade-long relationship with Extended Studies has contributed much to these programs’ success.

“The classes he teaches are among our most popular,” McClenahan says. “He is very well respected in the business community and



*Akasha Vega '03 (elementary education/special education), the first recipient of the George Hill and Ginny Knowles Leadership Award, stands with Hill and Knowles '92, Ed.D. in her classroom at Vaughn Middle School in Reno. Vega is pursuing a master's degree in educational leadership.*

## Planned philanthropy makes a difference

Both George Hill, associate professor of educational leadership, and Ginny Knowles '92 Ed.D. came from impoverished, rural Oregon communities. They view education as a way of improving the lives of those who come from lesser means.

To encourage individuals from similar backgrounds, Hill and Knowles have established several funds: one to provide Hispanic teachers with the means to pursue higher education and become administrators, one to support first-generation students pursuing a teaching degree, one to provide scholarships to students in the College of

Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources, and one to help students during internships in pursuit of becoming educators.

"It was teachers like Akasha Vega who inspired us to create this award. The award recognizes and celebrates the impact she has on students in the classroom," says Knowles, principal of Vaughn Middle School in Reno where Vega '03 teaches while pursuing her master's degree.



### Your legacy ensures Nevada's future

The Nevada Legacy Society honors a special group of individuals who are partners in planning for the future. By designating "Nevada" as a recipient of deferred gifts through their financial and estate plans, these thoughtful alumni and friends are helping to build our endowment, which provides a never-ending source of support to increase student success. We invite you to become a member of the Nevada Legacy Society by making a future gift to Nevada.

We are grateful for gifts of any size. If you have already planned such a gift, please let us know. This allows us to plan for the future and thank you today by including you in this special circle of friends. In recognition of their vision and generosity, members are guests of honor at an annual Nevada Legacy Society event, receive invitations to other key University activities, receive a copy of our *Nevada Legacy Planner* newsletter and are listed in our annual Honor Roll of Donors publication (unless anonymity is requested).

**To learn more about options for planned giving and how to become a member of the Nevada Legacy Society, contact Lisa Riley or Bob Eggleston at (775) 784-1352 or [plannedgiving@unr.edu](mailto:plannedgiving@unr.edu). All inquiries are strictly confidential.**



## Wolf Pack anglers reel in money for student scholarships

Nevada students Travis Olson and Justin Landerman finished third in the National Guard FLW College Bass Fishing Tournament on Clear Lake in Kelseyville, Calif., March 7. The third place finish earned the team \$4,000—\$2,000 for student scholarships and \$2,000 for the school's bass-fishing club.

National Guard FLW College Fishing is a nationwide competitive bass fishing program open to all full-time students at four-year colleges and universities. It consists of 20 qualifying events, five regional championships and the national championship. Student teams from across the country fish for scholarship money, prizes and, ultimately, a chance to compete in the \$2.5 million Forrest Wood Cup in 2010.

Justin and Travis are both from Boulder City and both are sophomores majoring

in electrical engineering. They have been fishing together since they were kids. After attending the University as a freshman, Justin learned about FLW Outdoors and started the Wolf Pack bass-fishing club. The club now has close to 20 members, six of whom form two-person teams for the FLW tournaments.

"I love the FLW events," Justin says. "Bass fishing requires a lot of strategy and it's very competitive. Bass are smart, lazy fish and it's difficult to succeed in tournaments. I'm very proud and happy that some of the money that we've won is being used to provide scholarship support to students. It's a great feeling, especially in these tough times when many

students are struggling financially."

Travis and Justin will next represent the University in the National Guard FLW College Fishing Regional Championship on the California Delta in Stockton Sept. 19-21 with a chance to win \$25,000 and advance to the national championship.

—Ken Kempcke



Photo courtesy FLW Outdoors

Travis Olson and Justin Landerman with their third place medals following the National Guard FLW College Bass Fishing Tournament in Kelseyville, Calif.

## Alumna leaves legacy gift to College of Education

Lois Honeywell received her bachelor of arts degree from Nevada in 1945 and became a teacher in Yerington. After leaving Lyon County in the 1950s, she taught in the La Mesa-Spring Valley School District in California. In her trust, she arranged for an endowment with the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation to honor her mother and father, Jessie and Clayton Honeywell.

The University also received a bequest from Lois' brother, Clayton Jr., who established a mirror trust with his sister. Income from the Jessie and Clayton Honeywell endowment will be used to support annual scholarships in the College of Education beginning in the 2010-2011 academic year.

For more than 50 years, the College of Education has played a leadership role in the growth and advancement of education in the state of Nevada. Its fundamental mission is to prepare the next generation of educators in a research environment, while honoring the University's land-grant mission. The Honeywells' gifts will benefit not only individual education students, but also help the University achieve overall objectives for a strong future.

Lois and Clayton join an ever-growing group of alumni and friends whose contributions and foresight are making an incredible



Photo by Theresa Dama-Douglas

Students working in the College of Education's Learning Resource Center.

difference for students at the University. Through their planned gifts to the College of Education, the Honeywells impact the lives of children and the fabric of society through the preparation of outstanding and accomplished educators.

—Ken Kempcke

For more information on planned giving opportunities, please contact the Planned Giving Team: Lisa M. Riley, J.D., [lriley@unr.edu](mailto:lriley@unr.edu), or Robert Eggleston, [beggleson@unr.edu](mailto:beggleson@unr.edu), (775) 784-1352.



*With the help of the Marshall R. Matley Foundation, Professor Esmail Zanjani and his students are pioneering research biotechnology.*

Even though funds from private foundations are sometimes less than what researchers obtain through organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, they are often more helpful because restrictions are fewer and the money can be used creatively to pursue new and promising ideas.

"The trustees of the Matley Foundation are a very intelligent and caring group of people that have done a lot for the University community," Zanjani says. "It is my goal that their support will soon result in real therapy solutions for patients who suffer from debilitating illnesses."

The Marshall R. Matley Foundation, named in honor of the Reno rancher and businessman, was created primarily to advance the interests of special needs children and adults. In addition to supporting Zanjani's research, the foundation has provided generous gifts to Campus Escort Service, the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center and the Disability Resource Center.

—Ken Kempcke

## Marshall R. Matley Foundation provides gift for medical research

The Reno-based Marshall R. Matley Foundation recently provided a major gift to support the research of Esmail Zanjani, chair of the Department of Animal Biotechnology in the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources. This is the foundation's second gift to Zanjani, whose research seeks to improve the quantity of human insulin-producing cells and may one day lead to improvements in the treatment of diabetes,

liver and pancreatic illnesses, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and other diseases.

"Private foundation support is crucial for the development of new ideas—ideas that haven't yet reached the level that would attract national funds," Zanjani says. "Private grants have been critical in unearthing all kinds of important findings, allowing investigators to push the envelope and engage in projects that normal public funding doesn't support."

## AT&T and Wells Fargo support Hispanic business initiative

AT&T and Wells Fargo recently provided funding to kick off a partnership initiative between the College of Business and the Nevada Small Business Development Center that will focus on three critical elements to enhancing Hispanic entrepreneurial activity in Nevada: educating more Hispanic students at the College of Business, facilitating research that provides insight into Hispanic business operations and workplace issues, and providing entrepreneurial training and counseling to Hispanic business owners.

"This outreach project, known as Imagine 2012, is designed to enhance Hispanic entrepreneurial activities statewide and provide stronger educational opportunities throughout Nevada," said Marcel Fernando Schaefer, program manager in the Nevada Small Business Development Center.

Hal Lenox, president of AT&T Nevada, commends the University for creating an innovative education program for the Hispanic community that he feels will increase middle

school and high school retention. "These combined components align with the goals of the AT&T Foundation in supporting education in diverse communities and increasing high school retention to create a stronger workforce," Lenox said.

"As a company, we believe we must invest in graduating our students from high school to create a strong and educated workforce that will continue to make the U.S. a leader in technology and innovation," Lenox continued. "The University of Nevada, Reno has created a powerful business program that entices and encourages thinking and innovation on an international scale. At the same time, it is finding ways that will help keep students in high school so they can pursue higher education as a path to success."

Chad Osorno, Wells Fargo Northern Nevada regional president, says: "I commend the College of Business for continuing to develop programs that encourage diversity in entrepreneurship and commerce. Inno-



*The Hispanic business initiative is creating a new learning environment. Pictured: international affairs junior Shirley Diaz and accounting information systems senior Christina Martinez.*

vative programs, including Imagine 2012, give students at Nevada access to top-notch information and experience that will help them be successful in a competitive work environment. They also help meet the growing demands of businesses in our community for educated, well rounded employees. Programs like these are exactly what our community needs to prepare the next generation of business leaders."

—Ken Kempcke





## Gatherings

### 2009 Spring Commencement

The University of Nevada, Reno's 119th Spring Commencement took place during two ceremonies, one for advanced degree recipients Friday, May 15 and one for baccalaureate degree recipients Saturday, May 16. The University awarded a total of 1,402 bachelor's degrees and 441 advanced degrees (for the master's and doctoral degrees and the education specialist certificate) during its commencement exercises. Both ceremonies were held on the University's historic quadrangle, located on the south end of campus.

#### LOOK ONLINE

For more photos of all of our Gatherings visit: [www.unr.edu/silverandblue](http://www.unr.edu/silverandblue)

### Golden Reunion '59

More than 35 graduates celebrated the 50 years since their undergraduate commencement. Included in this year's Golden Reunion class are Jim Santini, a former U.S. congressman from Nevada and Richard Bryan, former Nevada attorney general, governor, and state and U.S. senator.

- (1) Senator Richard Bryan '59, Robert Morrill '59 and Carol (Gardenswartz) Barker '59 provide comedic relief during their Class of 1959 Golden Reunion dinner celebration.
- (2) Golden Reunion classmates Carl Shaff '59 and Senator Richard Bryan '59.
- (3) Class of 1959 members prepare to march with graduating students during the Commencement ceremony May 16.





## Alumni Skate Night

Nearly 90 alumni and friends joined the Nevada Alumni Association at the first annual Alumni Roller Skating Night May 31 at Roller Kingdom. The event kicked off the summer season of association activities that continue July 1 with the first of six Pack Picnics on the Quad.

**(4)** Lifetime Alumni Association member Gennie McClelland brought friends Gene, Bryce and Taylor out to enjoy a night of skating.

**(5)** Skaters try every trick possible in an effort to win the coveted title of limbo champion.

**(6)** Caesar Ibarra '00, Theresa (Sloan) Ibarra '99, '04 and daughters Kaylyn and Mia at Alumni Skate Night.

Photos by Theresa Danna-Douglas





# GLORY DAYS

*are here again!*

## HOMECOMING '09

OCTOBER 16-24

# N

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Oct. 16 | Vintage Nevada • Reno Events Center   |
| Oct. 18 | Homecoming Kick-Off Scavenger Hunt • University of Nevada Campus                |
| Oct. 22 | Homecoming Gala • Joe Crowley Student Union Ballroom                            |
| Oct. 23 | Blue Flu Free Community BBQ • Joe Crowley Student Union Plaza                   |
| Oct. 23 | Family Pep Rally & Bonfire • North of Peccole Park, University of Nevada Campus |
| Oct. 23 | Old Guys' Night • Little Waldorf Saloon   |
| Oct. 24 | Homecoming Breakfast • Joe Crowley Student Union Plaza                          |
| Oct. 24 | Homecoming Pregame Party • Wolf Pack Alley                                      |

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# HOME MEANS NEVADA

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Photo by Jean Dixon



## From the President

Dear Nevada Alumni,

Springtime on campus for the Nevada Alumni Association celebrated alumni of all ages. Newly graduated students were welcomed into our family of more than 70,000 at activities such as Graduation Celebration, Senior Scholar and Commencement. Past graduates were honored at the Class of 1959's 50-year Golden Reunion.

Currently the Nevada Alumni Association is in the midst of our most popular summer events: Pack Picnics (co-sponsored by Summer Sessions). Each Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. through Aug. 7, alumni and friends can come out to the University's historic Quad and enjoy free music, cookies, popcorn, face painting, bounce houses and much more.

Although we are enjoying the beautiful summer on campus, the association is busy working on fall activities for you to enjoy. In September, we will be holding the second annual Alumni Bowling Night at Wild Island Family Adventure Park's Coconut Bowl. Last year's event was such a success we couldn't wait to do it again.

Football season will also kick off in September. The first home game is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 25 against Missouri. You can be sure the association will once again be out in full force as a sponsor in Wolf Pack Alley with our pregame party under the big blue pavilion. Bring family and friends to these fun events starting two hours prior to kickoff. Of course dues-paying Nevada Alumni Association members always receive a discount.

Homecoming 2009 begins Oct. 16. Last year, our organization co-sponsored the bonfire with the Associated Students of the University of Nevada. Many alumni and their families joined the students for this traditional Homecoming activity that included food, live music and a performance by Controlled Burn, who also lit the actual fire. We look forward to seeing all of you out there again this year.

Other traditional events such as the Homecoming Gala and Awards Dinner, the Scholarship Reception, Old Guys Night at the Little Wal, various chapter events and the football pregame party are also on the schedule of events.

As always, the Nevada Alumni Association would like to thank our current dues-paying members for their support! If you have not yet joined or have let your membership lapse, please take a moment to sign up or renew today by visiting [www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni) or calling 888.NV.ALUMS.

Thank you for supporting the Nevada Alumni Association!

Sincerely,



Michael F. Dillon, Jr. '94  
President, Nevada Alumni Council



Mike Dillon, Jr. '94  
President

## Nevada Alumni Council Executive Committee

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Cindy Buchanan '95

Past President

Lauren Sankovich '98

President-elect/Treasurer

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Vice President for Chapter Development

Kelly Bland '91

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Alumni Program Coordinator

Hope Hepner

Administrative Assistant II



Jean (Guisti) Carbon '68

## Class Chat submissions are due Aug. 1, 2009.

### '60s

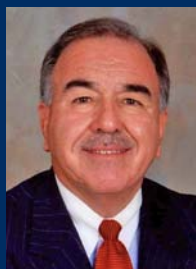
**Gretchen (Geyer) Legarza '67** (biology) is currently a laboratory consultant and is a contract employee with Washoe County District Health Department. Gretchen helps clinic nurses with good lab practice and maintaining compliance with state and federal regulations.

**Jean (Guisti) Carbon '68** (home economics) retired recently from a 16-and-a-half-year career as a development director with the University of Nevada, Reno. The Division of Development and Alumni Relations held a retirement party for her April 21 attended by many of her friends, colleagues and family members. Jean began in the College of Education and later worked for the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources. Jean is married to David Carbon '72 (accounting). They have one child, Traci Mendoza, '93 (resource management), '97M.Ed. (elementary education), and one grandchild, Kiel Mendoza.

**J. Dan Stallings '71** (plant science) retired from Betaseed, Inc. after 40 years in the sugar beet industry. Previously he worked for Amalgamated Sugar Co. from 1969-1981 as a research agronomist. In 1981 he joined Betaseed, Inc., working on disease testing and variety improvement. He is married to Susan (Bryan) Stallings, they have six children and 17 grandchildren.

### '70s

**Jon B. Wellinghoff '71** (mathematics) was appointed by President Barack Obama as acting chairman of the Federal Energy Regula-



Wayne A. Frediani '72



Bill Baker '09



Susan Desmond-Hellmann, '78, '82M.D.



Mark W. Yenter '81

tory Commission. The FERC's duties include regulating interstate transmission of electricity, watching over the nation's wholesale electricity markets and also licensing new hydropower projects. John previously worked in private practice as a lawyer specializing in energy issues.

**Wayne A. Frediani '72** (management) was named to the National Automobile Dealers Association Public Affairs Committee in McLean, Va. Wayne is the executive director and lobbyist of the Nevada Franchised Auto Dealers Association and is responsible for regulatory and legislative affairs.

**Robert Johnson '73** (agriculture), '77M.S. (agricultural economics) has announced his retirement from the Bureau of Reclamation as commissioner. Robert played a major role in securing California's Quantification Settlement Agreement, which addressed California's over-reliance on Colorado River water. He also helped develop and implement the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, a coordinated, comprehensive, long-term multi-agency effort to conserve and work toward the recovery of endangered species, and protect and maintain wildlife habitat on the lower Colorado River.

**William Baker '74** (mechanical engineering) is pleased to announce his son, young Bill (pictured above), who has been president of TKE fraternity this year, graduated in May with a degree in mechanical engineering at the University of Nevada, Reno.

**Susan Desmond-Hellmann, '78** (premedical) '82M.D. a physician, pioneering cancer researcher and biotechnology industry execu-

tive, who most recently served as president of product development for Genentech, was named chancellor of the University of California, San Francisco campus by the University of California Board of Regents on May 7. The appointment takes effect Aug. 3. Susan did her internal medicine and oncology training at UCSF, following her Nevada education.

**Edward Eissmann '79** (premedical), '81M.S. (biology), '85M.D. stepped down as chief of surgery at Providence Everett Medical Center in Everett, Wash. in 2006. Edward is now in private practice with Cascade Valley Hospital in Arlington, Wash.

## '80s

**Dean Weitzel '81** (civil engineering) has joined MACTEC Engineering & Consulting, Inc. in Reno as a senior engineer. He previously worked for the Nevada Department of Transportation for 30 years in various divisions, including materials, bridge, roadway design and construction.

**Chris McCurry '94Ph.D.** (psychology) has published *Parenting your Anxious Child with Mindfulness and Acceptance* through New Harbinger Publications. He is in private practice in Seattle, where he lives with his wife, Sue, and their son, Ian.

**Mark W. Yenter '81** (civil engineering) was recently promoted to the rank of general in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He is the 28th commander and division engineer for the Pacific Ocean Division and is responsible for a mission that includes engineering design, construction and real estate management for the Army and Air Force in Hawaii and Alaska and for all Department of Defense agencies in

Japan, the Republic of Korea and Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

**Geoffrey F. Chiara, O.D. '82** (health science) has recently been elected president of the Nevada State Board of Optometry. Geoffrey was appointed to the board in 2006 by then Governor Kenny Guinn for a three-year term. Geoffrey is currently chief, optometry service at the VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System in Las Vegas.

**Warren C. Kocmond Jr. '82** (mechanical engineering) has accepted the position of chief executive officer at Electroglas, Inc., a leading supplier of wafer probers and prober-based test handling solutions for the semiconductor industry. Warren has served as the chief operating officer of the company since May 2008.

**Kirk Schueler '82** (renewable natural resources) has been appointed by Oregon State Governor Kulongoski to the State Board of Higher Education. Kirk is a real estate developer in Oregon.

**Kim Stoll '82** (journalism) recently joined Northern Nevada Medical Center as director of business development and marketing and is responsible for marketing the hospital and its wide variety of specialty services.

**Cynthia (Reeves) Tuttle '83** (biology) was appointed by the National Business Group on Health as vice president of its Center for Prevention and Health Services. The National Business Group on Health is a nonprofit association representing more than 300 large U.S. employers. Cynthia will lead a team of professionals and provide leadership in identifying, developing and



## Wolf mates



Justin Tam '97 (psychology) and Maria Hsing were married on Aug. 8, 2008 in Las Vegas. The couple lives in the San Francisco Bay Area and are both currently teachers.

deploying solutions for employer member health and healthcare benefit issues and work closely with NBGH executives to obtain funding, and develop and deliver programs to NBGH members.

**Monte Morrison '86** (chemical engineering) has recently joined Magma Energy Corp. as vice president of operations after 11 years with Constellation Energy. Monte has managed multiple geothermal power plants in Nevada, California and Hawaii for more than 20 years. Monte will manage Magma's power plants, both domestic and international, as well as assist with acquisition

the Nevada Gaming Control Board. Mark has held several positions in Nevada's resort industry, including executive vice president for Bally Technologies, president of Shuffle Master and vice president-finance for Casino Data Systems.

**Jessica Burkhamer '88** (social work) speaks nationally on psychiatric issues and specializes in neurobehavioral psychiatry for children and adolescents. She recently moved to Minnesota and is looking forward to the release of a book soon.

**Jacqueline (Voorhees) Rickard '88** (art)

efforts. Monte resides in Fallon with his wife of 25 years, Amy (Genkinger) Morrison, and their two sons, Brett and Josh.

**Mark Lipparelli '87** (finance), '93M.S. (economics) was named by Governor Jim Gibbons to

has retired from teaching and now works full-time as an artist and basket maker.

**Bob Davies '89** (management), has been named the new president of Eastern Oregon University in La Grande. He was formerly the vice president for university relations at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he was in charge of fundraising, legislative affairs, marketing, a \$50 million endowment and a \$280 million student housing project.

**Stephen Gould '89** (international affairs), '93MBA has been named one of the top veteran entrepreneurs for 2008 by the National Veteran Owned Businesses Association. Global is headquartered in Beachwood, Ohio, and provides project management, technical and professional services on a global basis. Stephen is also the proprietor of Maison De La Vie, Ltd., a small artisan distillery dedicated to producing hand-crafted distilled beverages using traditional artisanal production methods from the 1800s.



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**N**  
ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION



John Griffin '95



Jason Woodbury '95

**Stella (Horton) Hayes '89** (biology), '93M.D. has been a U.S. Navy doctor since graduating from the School of Medicine 16 years ago. Stella is happily married with three children ages 9, 11, 13.

## '90s

**Brenda Lee '90** (civil engineering), an engineer for the Regional Transportation Commission, won a project of the year award from the Nevada Chapter of the American Public Works Association. Brenda was recognized for her work on the U.S. 395 improvements at Clear Acre Lane that included the McCarran Bridge.

**John Griffin '95** (political science) has been elected to the Kummer Kaempfer Bonner Renshaw & Ferrario Law Firm board of directors. John has been an associate with the firm since June 2006. A native Nevadan, he practices in the areas of governmental relations and lobbying, administrative and regulatory matters, strategic planning, gaming and land use planning.

**Pamela Jo Kershaw '95** (elementary education) just completed her doctoral degree in organizational leadership from University of La Verne. Her dissertation examined a specific bilingual education program used in 151 districts in California. She earned her master's from Azusa Pacific in 1999 in educational administration. Pamela currently teaches in a master's program in reading and literacy for Walden University and a 6th grade English language development class for Palm Springs Unified School District. Pamela serves on the Human Rights Commission for her area and enjoys desert living with her "better half."

**Jason Woodbury '95** (political science) has been elected to the Kummer Kaempfer Bonner Renshaw & Ferrario Law Firm board of directors. Jason has been an associate in the litigation department since 2006. He represents numerous clients as both plaintiffs and defendants in civil litigation and in the areas of election law, property law, administrative law and general business law.

**Eric Fox '96** (psychology), '00M.A. (psychology) married the love of his life, Stephanie Greenwald, on Aug. 30, 2008. They recently moved to San Francisco so that he could begin a new position as dean of instruction at Saybrook

Graduate School and Research Center. Both Eric and Stephanie really like burritos.

**Pam (Parkyn) Salassi '96** (health education) was invited to design a gift package for the 81st Annual Academy Awards gift bags featuring her product See Thru Soap. Each year dozens of companies vie for a chance to be included in the celebrity gift bags for this event.

**Tony Cardinalli '97** (accounting/computer information systems) has joined Business Team/BTI Group Mergers & Acquisitions in Reno as a broker. Tony previously worked as a senior accountant for a certified public accounting firm in San Francisco and operated his own CPA firm.

**Randy Barnes '97** (premedical), '03M.D. is currently an emergency physician with Idaho Emergency Physicians and is working at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, Idaho and West Valley Medical Center in Caldwell, Idaho. He is married to Lindsay Barnes and has two children, Lauren and Dylan.

**Julie Schell '97** (health science), '00M.S. (counseling and educational psychology) graduated with a doctorate in higher and post-secondary education from Teachers College, Columbia University in May 2009. Following graduation, Julie is pursuing a postdoctoral fellowship researching pedagogical innovation in science and math education as a member of the

Department of Physics at Harvard University. Julie resides in New York City with her wife and their African Basenji, Rusty.

**Michael Dewitt '98** (English) was awarded the Local Hero Award by the Washington State Bar Association. The Local Hero Award is presented to lawyers who have made noteworthy contributions to their communities. Michael is currently an associate attorney at Morgan & Bartholomew, practicing primarily in family law, with some guardianship, probate and estate planning.

**Rick Swecker '98** (Spanish/health science) has been promoted to partner in the practice at Family First Chiropractic in Sparks. Rick will oversee patient management including physical, orthopedic, and neurological exams as well as manage staff and clinic procedures. He will continue to provide chiropractic health care to patients during daily visits, as well as education regarding health and wellness issues such as lifestyle choices, exercise and nutrition.

**Tasha (Palmer) Lopez '99** (chemical engineering) has been selected to participate in IBM's Corporate Service Corps (a corporate version of the Peace Corps), so she'll be in Africa through March. Most of her time will be spent working with an umbrella organization that advocates for a better business climate in the industrial sector in Ghana. You can visit her blog at [tashaefualopez.blogspot.com](http://tashaefualopez.blogspot.com) if you'd like to read more about her adventures.

## Regent Gallagher awarded prestigious national medal

Dorothy Gallagher's '47 (premedical) career as a member of the Nevada System of Higher Education's Board of Regents has been characterized by dedication and involvement in furthering the higher education ideals of the state. In February, she was awarded the prestigious Gold Medal award from the Mining and Metallurgical Society of America.

James Taranik, director of the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering, and longtime friend of Gallagher's, said Gallagher's contribution to his school cannot be overestimated.

"Dorothy saved Mackay from extinction and enabled Nevada's mining school to become stronger," he said. "She arranged for the Desert



Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas

Research Institute to develop the Great Basin Environmental Research Laboratory, she was instrumental in fostering the development of Great Basin College in Elko, and she was a stabilizing force on the Board of Regents for 26 years."





Gayle Magee '01



Jamie Brant '08



Cory Hunt '08

**Crystal Zuelke '99** (journalism) is now producing a monthly television program for the Las Vegas Valley Water District. The program, "Water Ways," informs the southern Nevada community about water conservation and resources.

## '00s

**Viktoriya Golovkina '00M.S.** (physics), recently returned to Reno to install a new X-ray tomography and cancer therapy unit at Renown Cancer Institute for her employer, TomoTherapy of Madison, Wisc., and to train the Renown staff to operate it.

**Gayle Magee '01** (elementary education) was presented with a \$25,000 Milken Educator Award on April 18 in front of an overflowing ballroom of dignitaries and top educators. Gayle was presented the award during a

spectacular gala hailed as the "Oscars of Teaching" by *Teacher Magazine*. The Milken Educator Awards represent the largest teacher recognition program in the U.S., having bestowed more than 2,300 exceptional educators with \$60 million in unrestricted cash awards. Gayle is one of 70 outstanding K-12 teachers nationwide presented with this award.

**Logan McLean '01** (biology) is currently a radiology resident and has been accepted for a Neuroradiology Fellowship at the University of Utah Hospital.

**Wing Sze Wong '04MBA** has been hired as a senior accountant by the certified public accounting firm of Kafoury, Armstrong & Co. in Reno.

**Jamie Brant '08** (journalism) has been hired as an account coordinator for MassMedia, a regional public relations,

advertising and marketing communications firm. As account coordinator, she will be responsible for creating press materials and will assist with media relations and advertising campaign development, media buying, event planning and social media plans for local and national accounts.

**Christopher E. Harvey '08** (anthropology) has been accepted at the University of Nevada, Reno, to pursue his master's in anthropology, with specialization in cultural anthropology.

**Cory Hunt '08** (political science/geography) was featured in the February issue of SPIN magazine with his world champion barber-shop quartet, OC Times. The six-page article, "Imperfect Harmony," details the quartet's rise to fame, the controversy behind their revolutionary style, and their broad appeal to young and old alike.



**Charles David Russell '67** (managerial science) and his wife, Linda Russell, are pleased to announce the birth of their grandchild Parker David to Sarah (Buschne) Russell and Ryan Russell '03 (criminal justice) on Dec. 3, 2008.



**Barbara (Braunstein) Snitselaar '79** (criminal justice) would like to announce the birth of her first great-grandchild, Lisa Anne Marie, to Paula Nowicki and her husband, Chris Nowicki on Dec. 12, 2007.



**Todd Cabral '91** (marketing) and his wife, Christine Cabral, wish to announce the birth of their daughter, Rebekah Ann on April 7, 2009.



**Britta (Sorensen) Scheffer '95** (elementary/special education) '01M.Ed. (elementary education) and Patrick Scheffer are happy to announce the birth of their first child, William "Will" James, born Dec. 23, 2008.



**Cheryl (Foster) Roth '00** (biology) and Eric Roth would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Emily, on Dec. 17, 2008, she joins big brother, Aidan, 2.



**Alaina (Kearns) Vengco '03** (journalism) and Dante Vengco '00 (health science) would like to announce the birth of their son, Phoenix Kai on Nov. 24, 2008.



**Katherine (Moynihan) Williams '03** (elementary education) and Nick Williams '05 (economics/marketing) are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Alexis Nicole, on Dec. 19, 2008.



**Lisa Oliveto '04** (general studies), '08M.S. (human development and family studies) is proud to announce the birth of her granddaughter, Talya Marie Lacombe, on Jan. 20, 2009. She is also the niece of Marissa Gionglio '04 (journalism), '06MBA.



**Iris Larin '06** (French/mathematics) is pleased to announce the birth of her daughter, Camila Valentina, on Sept. 26, 2008.

## Wolfcubs

## Kickin' it with K-von | Greek for Life

Fraternity life at Nevada was not all booze and babes. It had to do with philanthropy, history, leadership... and well, let's be honest, perhaps some of the previously mentioned. I can say with confidence that, while in college, I rarely went near alcohol and never drugs... as for the babes, well they weren't so lucky. Recently, I found myself sharing fond college memories with a friend who did not take part in the Greek system at his university. When I asked him why he never joined, I heard the all too familiar three basic objections:

### Objection No. 1: "I don't need to buy my friends, man."

Coincidentally, the guy that said this to me had just subscribed to eHarmony and Match.com. Talk about buying friends! The Greeks I knew didn't have trouble making friends; rather, they had them their whole life. We most definitely had some diverse personalities in our group. Some members were already very outgoing and used the fraternity as a vehicle to make even more connections. Others were more naturally shy and learned to come out of their shells. It was a melting pot of backgrounds and we all learned a lot from each other. In today's world, social networking websites are taking off. Just think of the Greek system as one of the last real life versions of Facebook.

### Objection No. 2: "The fraternity houses are messy and disgusting, dude."

I can't really argue that one. Living in the house is not mandatory. However, the advantages include residing very close to campus and living in a unique environment with your peers and striving for a healthy balance of school and fun. Also, rent at the fraternity house is cheap. Now, sorority houses are typically clean, but I have seen a few that could double as a pigpen. Admittedly, our house could have quite easily been quarantined by the Department of Health had they come a knockin'. On the plus side, I think a lot of us developed a more robust immune and digestive system living in the Petri dish that is a fraternity house.

### Objection No. 3: "I would never go through that stupid 'pledging,' bro."

This one doesn't make sense to me. Certainly we find ourselves "pledging" out in the real world constantly throughout our lives. I don't care if you're an attorney, a manager, or a fast-food employee. If you want to advance at anything, most of us start near the bottom and work our way to the top. Might as well get used to it while in school. It always shocked me to hear people say, "How could you pledge for a whole semester?" Sure, I washed cars in the winter, went on multiple grocery runs, even delivered flow-

ers to girlfriends on Valentine's Day (talk about lazy actives!). I didn't always enjoy it, but for one semester's work, I then had the same assistance myself each year for the remainder of my college days. For some of the lazier members in my fraternity that was seven to eight years of personal assistance! I think putting your ego aside for a little while is a humbling and good exercise for anybody.

I still have quite a few friends from college that I owe to the Greek system. I've traveled with them, crashed on their couches while on the road, and had a lot of laughs the whole way. Maybe my friend was right. Perhaps being Greek really is like buying some lifelong friends after all. Judging by today's economy, I think it was a pretty good investment.

*K-von '03 (marketing) is a lifelong Sigma Alpha Epsilon brother and comedian. He's currently touring with Darren Carter and Jamie Kennedy. Look for him coming to a town near you. Check out his schedule at [www.K-vonComedy.com](http://www.K-vonComedy.com)*



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## Randy Gener '92 wins prestigious Nathan Award

The heads of the English departments of Cornell, Princeton, and Yale Universities have chosen Randy Gener '92 (general studies), senior editor of *American Theatre Magazine*, to receive the annual George Jean Nathan Award for Dramatic Criticism. The honor is reserved for "the American who has written the best piece of drama criticism during the theatrical year (July 1 to June 30), whether it is an article, an essay, treatise or book."

The Awards Committee citation for Gener reads, "He has used that venue [*American Theatre*] and others to draw our attention to largely ignored voices and visions on the international theatrical scene, to the work of Filipino-American playwright Jessica Hagedorn, to a small but lively Tennessee Williams Festival in Provincetown, and to the future of theatrical criticism itself in essays that wed critical intelligence with a beat reporter's love of the telling and unruly fact."

The citation continues, "In one piece, Gener argues that, at its best, criticism is 'a cultural asset, one of the bases on which democracy and community are built.' He fulfills that lofty goal by implicitly reminding us of how much that is excellent in theater here and abroad is ignored by a critical fraternity which, during this age of globalization, seems more parochial than ever."

Gener, whose career in criticism dates as far back as his days as a movie critic for the *Sagebrush*, cites journalism professor Jake Highton as his greatest influence: "Jake pushed me to think bigger—to test my mettle in a bigger pond."

Highton met Gener, who was not a journalism major, after reading Gener's movie columns. "He wondered why I did not sign up to major in print journalism."

Encouraged to enroll in print journalism classes, Gener took every course Highton offered "despite his reputation as a tough, pugnacious and fiery taskmaster," he says. The mentor/student relationship proved formative. "His media-law and ethics classes fired my passion for First Amendment absolutism,



Randy Gener '92 accepts the George Jean Nathan Award for best dramatic criticism at the Philippine Consulate Center in New York on March 9.

progressive politics and the Supreme Court."

Highton's classes about the history of newspapers in New York spurred Gener to hop on a Greyhound bus for his first cross-country trip. That trip to New York led to Gener pulling up stakes and moving to the Big Apple for good.

Winning the top honor in dramatic criticism "feels strange and hallucinatory," he says. On the one hand he is "ecstatic" to be in the company of the top writers in his field and to be featured in such prestigious publications as *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker* and *Newsweek*. On the other hand, the award "has come my way at a scary and toxic time: when print journalism itself is on life-support—and when the forecast for the kind of criticism I practice, in this age of bloggers, is extreme inclemency."

But, he is "invigorated" by the fact that there are educated readers who believe, as he does, that dramatic criticism is a valuable art that benefits society.

"My critical essays represent a passionate effort to move the theatre back to the center of the broader U.S. conversations about politics, society, culture, identity and globalization," he notes. "I think of what I write as signals to a market-driven democracy that has allowed art, criticism and intellectual dissent to languish and deteriorate."

Jim O'Quinn, editor in chief of *American Theatre Magazine*, remarks, "Randy Gener

has been a tremendous asset to *American Theatre* ever since he was selected as a Jerome Foundation Affiliated Writer back in 1995–96, and especially since he joined the staff full-time in 2002. His command of any number of theatrical subjects—from international exchange to the vagaries of arts journalism and criticism—is unequalled among his contemporaries."

Winning the Nathan Award is the most recent accolade in Gener's distinguished career. In addition to being the senior editor of *American Theatre*, he is a writer, critic, editor, playwright and visual artist. He is the author of *Love Seats for Virginia Woolf* and *What Remains of a Rembrandt Torn into Four Pieces*, among other plays, as well as scholarly essays, articles and reviews in *The Village Voice*, *The New York Times*, *New York Magazine*, *The Star Ledger*, *Time Out New York*, and other publications.

The Nathan Award is considered the highest accolade in the U.S. for dramatic criticism. When George Jean Nathan provided for it in his will, he explained that it was his "object and desire to encourage and assist in developing the art of drama criticism and the stimulation of intelligent playgoing."

The annual award now amounts to \$10,000, making it the richest as well as one of the most distinguished in the American theater.

—Melanie Robbins '06M.A.  
and staff reports

"Jake [Highton] pushed me to think bigger—to test my mettle in a bigger pond."

—Randy Gener '92

### LOOK ONLINE

For the full interview, visit: [www.unr.edu/nevadasilverandblue](http://www.unr.edu/nevadasilverandblue)



Photos courtesy of Eppie Johnson

## Alum Eppie Johnson '51 continues successful restaurateur career in Loomis

If you've driven between Reno and the Bay Area on Interstate 80 you may not have noticed a town called Loomis. This rural community approximately 110 miles west of Reno is home to a new restaurant, the Horseshoe Bar Grill. The establishment boasts a menu that represents "seasonal selections from America's great wealth of culinary diversity." The Horseshoe Bar Grill also features farm-fresh, sustainable and organic foods and wines whenever possible, as well as meats from animals that have never been exposed to hormones or antibiotics.

Owner Eppie Johnson '51 (business

administration) knows a little something about the restaurant business: It runs in his bloodline. When Johnson was 17, he moved from his childhood home in New York to attend Nevada and be near his father, who was already living in Reno and the owner of The Little Giant restaurant in downtown Reno. Customers could get coffee for a nickel and a hamburger for a dime.

After graduating from Nevada, Johnson followed his father once again to Sacramento to work in his restaurant. When he reported to work for the first time he was handed a bow tie and jacket for what he thought was his assistant manager position. Little did he know he would next be handed a large tray and be told his new position was bus boy.

After eventually being fired by his dad just when Johnson and his wife were about to have a new baby, he realized he needed to find a job quickly. He stuck with what he knew: food. Johnson started "Eppie the Caterer" as his first solo business venture. Later he had the idea to

*Horseshoe Bar Grill owner Eppie Johnson '51 and Executive Chef Roderick Williams at the Loomis, Calif. restaurant.*

sell stock in a new restaurant he called Eppie's. This was a successful venture and on June 15, 1954 Johnson opened the first of 27 Eppie's restaurants in California. In 1965 the chain won Best Coffee Shop Design in the country.

Today you can find Johnson participating with the University's Sacramento Alumni Chapter, which he founded. The group also has a scholarship in his name that the chapter makes a priority for fundraising activities.

—Amy Carothers '01M.A.

*Editor's note: Visit Eppie's Horseshoe Bar Grill at 3645 Taylor Road, Loomis, Calif. 95650; call: (916) 652-4100; or check out [www.horseshoebargrill.us](http://www.horseshoebargrill.us)*



## Chapter Updates



Sandi Emm '02, Kari Emm '01, Dave Kemppainen (Counseling Services psychologist), Matt Price and Stephani Foust '01, '08.



ISU Stetson Beemer was the winning team of this year's COBA golf tournament May 14 at Lakeridge Golf Course. Dan McGuire, Jason Tolotti, Justin Moscové '97 (management) and Ryan Schield.

### Fallon Alumni Chapter

Tina Dakin '71, '84, [jtdakin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jtdakin@sbcglobal.net)

As always the Fallon Alumni Chapter is traveling for fun while raising money for scholarships. In April, alumni and friends enjoyed the last Nevada home softball game of the season with a rooter bus trip.

After many years of secret restaurants, this year's Mystery Bus Trip was a big surprise. The location was unveiled as we arrived at the brand new Reno Aces Stadium for baseball and ball park food. Special thanks to Dee McGinness' son, Brett '00 (journalism), who helped arrange such an exciting day, and to the entire planning committee!

The Western BBQ is our major scholarship fundraiser for the year. Please join the group at the beautiful Norm Frey Ranch on the Carson River in Fallon—Sunday, Aug. 9 at 4 p.m. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend this social event.

All Fallon Alumni Chapter activities help raise funds for scholarships.

For information regarding upcoming events, visit [www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni) and click "Connect" to find the Fallon Chapter.

### Native American Alumni Chapter

Sherry Rupert '05, [srupert@nic.nv.gov](mailto:srupert@nic.nv.gov)

Bagna Cauda is sure to become an annual event for the Native American Alumni Chapter! On Feb. 21, 16 alumni and friends enjoyed the Italian favorite at Coney Island Bar. This was a new dish for many attendees and was said to be one of our best events.

On May 6, the chapter hosted its annual American Indian Graduation Reception at the Joe Crowley Student Union. This year the chapter congratulated 34 graduates.

Sherry Rupert, chapter president and executive director of

the Nevada Indian Commission, was recently honored with the Reno-Tahoe Territory Tourism Award for her accomplishments on the Stewart Indian School Trails. Visitors and tourists are now able to use their cell phones to tour the school and listen to memories of Stewart alumni, teachers and others.

The chapter meets monthly at various locations. If you are interested in joining, please contact Kari Emm at (775) 784-4936 or [kemm@unr.edu](mailto:kemm@unr.edu); or Sherry Rupert at (775) 687-8333 or [srupert@nic.nv.gov](mailto:srupert@nic.nv.gov).

### Nevada Football Alumni Chapter

Jim Farley '99, [jfarley47@verizon.net](mailto:jfarley47@verizon.net)

The Nevada Football Alumni Board is proud to announce the approval of funds to support Nevada's summer school program. To help pay for current players summer school, the Football Alumni Chapter is selling personalized plaques that will be mounted on individual lockers. All funds raised help support our players and coaches. Please contact Jim Farley at [jfarley47@verizon.net](mailto:jfarley47@verizon.net) if you are interested in this great opportunity.

### Northeastern Nevada Alumni Chapter

Danny Gonzales '90, '95, '04, [dannyg@gwmail.gbcnv.edu](mailto:dannyg@gwmail.gbcnv.edu)

With the recent approval of the chapter's constitution and bylaws, the board of directors is in the process of getting organized and will be spearheading a membership drive during the summer and early fall to inform the local community about the chapter. The effort will include hosting events during televised football games, public service announcements and direct email communications with alumni in the area.

### Orvis School of Nursing Alumni Association

Linda Clift '74, [orvis\\_alumni@hotmail.com](mailto:orvis_alumni@hotmail.com)

OSNAA celebrated spring with a wine and cheese reception April 16 at the home of Bob and Linda Clift. It was a fun social event and an excellent opportunity to brainstorm about future events and ways to generate more participation among our alumni. We are looking forward to working more closely with the Orvis Student Nurse Association (our future members!) and were pleased to have the president and vice president of OSNA attend the meeting. They had some great suggestions for ways that OSNAA and OSNA can partner to provide more benefits for their members. One of these suggestions was a mentoring program, which we will implement in the near future. We are planning a social event later in the year, perhaps piggy-backing on a major University event such as Homecoming or Commencement. Watch for information about this in the next few months.

OSNAA is excited and pleased to be awarding its first nursing scholarship in the fall of 2009. We will be focusing our efforts this year on maintaining our scholarship fund so that we can continue to award scholarships yearly. If you are an Orvis alumnus, please consider membership in OSNAA. Your dues help support the scholarship fund, and you will have fun reconnecting and networking with other alumni!

### UNSOM Alumni Chapter

Dr. Peter Verhey '97, '02M.D., [ptverhey@yahoo.com](mailto:ptverhey@yahoo.com)

The UNSOM Alumni Chapter has been busy reaching alumni across the country.

We are planning a reception prior to the Foundation Banquet at John Ascuaga's Nugget on Thursday, Sept. 24, where we

will honor an alumnus with the inaugural Outstanding Alumni Award. The Foundation Banquet will feature Dr. Atul Gawande, an internationally renowned surgeon and writer. For information about the prebanquet reception, contact the UNSOM Alumni office at (775) 784-6009. Tickets to the Foundation Banquet are \$200 each or \$2,000 per table and must be purchased in advance by calling Jeanne Corbit at (775) 784-4831.

You're an important part of the school's legacy through your individual achievements. We encourage you to give back to the school and its students by being an active member of the UNSOM Alumni Chapter. To learn more about the chapter, reconnecting with colleagues, becoming a member, updating your contact information, and/or participating in chapter leadership, please visit [www.medicine.nevada.edu/alumni/alumniassoc.asp](http://www.medicine.nevada.edu/alumni/alumniassoc.asp).

## Young Alumni Chapter

Melissa Molyneaux '06, [yacpresident@gmail.com](mailto:yacpresident@gmail.com)

All ale'd the Nevada Young Alumni's Annual BeerFest on May 9 at Grand Sierra Resort, which featured more than 17 breweries pouring more than 60 regional beers. Attendees enjoyed live music from EJ the DJ, dancing, a huge raffle and two after-parties at Pearl Champagne Lounge and Scruples. Thank you Rateburger, Scruples and GSR for helping make this year's BeerFest a success and raising money for University of Nevada, Reno undergraduate scholarships.

Speaking of scholarships, the YAC board gave away \$10,500 to University students in May. YAC sponsored the Nevada Alumni Association's Graduation Celebration at The Joe, which featured



*The Young Alumni Chapter hosts their annual BeerFest celebration much to the delight of partygoers, Rosella Nunez, Laura Stone '06, Melissa Molyneaux '06, Erin Elliot '07 and Rosalia Nunez '07.*

a mechanical bull, games, a photo booth and a movie.

Stay tuned for upcoming events sponsored by YAC, including the Pack Picnic on the Quad featuring Sol' Jibe Aug. 5 and Pack the Wal' Night Oct. 23, as part of Homecoming 2009. Check out [www.NevadaYAC.com](http://www.NevadaYAC.com) for upcoming event information and how to get involved with YAC.

# Do you know someone who BLEEDS SILVER & BLUE?

**THE NEVADA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IS NOW  
ACCEPTING ALUMNI COUNCIL MEMBER NOMINATIONS**

**DEADLINE: AUGUST 1, 2009** – The Nevada Alumni Council meets three times a year and is the governing body of the Nevada Alumni Association. Contact 888.NV.ALUMS, 775.784.6620 or [nvalumni@unr.edu](mailto:nvalumni@unr.edu) for more information.

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_



Nevada Alumni Association  
Morrill Hall Alumni Center  
University of Nevada, Reno/0164  
Reno, Nevada 89557-0164

*Please use a separate sheet for additional nominations.*





Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas

## Senior Scholars: Different paths, notable accomplishments

One came from a tiny graduating class of only 30 students in Pioche, Nev., and wasn't sure what college would hold for him.

Another visited the Nevada campus and her decision to attend came only at the last moment.

A third, whose mother was a nurse, wished to follow in those same big footsteps before deciding to enroll at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Each semester, the University of Nevada, Reno and its Nevada Alumni Association honor an undergraduate student from each

school or college. The individual chosen meets the program's exceptional Senior Scholar standards. In addition, the Senior Scholar selects the faculty mentor who played the most significant role in their scholastic achievement.

The students honored in mid-May were able to achieve at a remarkably high level both in and out of the classroom.

When they received their respective degrees on May 16 during the University's Commencement, it was yet another notable milestone for a memorable group of eight students

BACK ROW: Alix Frank, Mike Dillon, President Milton Glick, Nicholas Aboumrad, Ashish Francis, Jamie M. Schnell Blitstein, William Mathews, Mitchel Craun, David Crowther, Jamie Sparks FRONT ROW: Dean Adams, Gary Blomquist, Stephanie DeBoor, Betty Cossitt, Brad Snyder. Not pictured: Stacey Alonzo, Bourne Morris and Christin Schillinger.

who exemplified many of the campus' virtues during their academic careers at Nevada.

—John Trent '85/'87, '00M.A.

*"I would especially like to extend my gratitude to my mentor Dr. Gary Blomquist. He has been my academic mentor and a role model with his dedication to his work and his students."*

### **Ashish Francis – GPA: 4.0**

Mentor: Gary Blomquist  
College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources

*"I never thought a little farm boy from Pioche, Nevada would achieve something like this. I did not think that I would amount to much in college. It has not been easy, but it has been worth it."*

### **William Mathews – GPA: 3.97**

Mentor: Betty Cossitt  
College of Business

*"UNR instantly felt like home, providing a perfect balance of excitement and familiarity. Beautiful campus, wonderful weather, exciting college life, and yet still only an hour plane ride from my family back in Las Vegas."*

### **Jamie Sparks – GPA: 4.0**

Mentor: David Crowther  
College of Education

*"My professors have taught me to think harder and have showed me that the best answer is sometimes the simplest. The foundation that they have provided will help me accomplish my future goals."*

### **Nicholas Aboumrad – GPA: 3.99**

Mentor: V. Dean Adams  
College of Engineering

*"Over the last year I have gone from a shaky red-faced girl with a stethoscope to a confident almost-nurse who can actually help people."*

### **Jamie M. Schnell Blitstein – GPA: 3.95**

Mentor: Stephanie DeBoor  
Division of Health Sciences

*"Although I didn't initially know exactly which field I ultimately wanted to enter, after taking various classes in music theory, history and musicology, I realized with certainty that musicology is my ideal area of study. I now plan to pursue a career in musicology, hopefully someday teaching at the university level, and to continue*

*expanding my knowledge of music and its role in society for the rest of my life."*

### **Alix Frank – GPA: 3.96**

Mentor: Christin Schillinger  
College of Liberal Arts

*"My focus has been on education as a means in itself, and I've thoroughly enjoyed my college years for the pure joy of gaining knowledge not only about the world as a whole but about myself as well."*

### **Stacey Alonzo – GPA: 3.9**

Mentor: Bourne Morris  
Reynolds School of Journalism

*"My desire to understand how the universe works has always been the driving force behind my academic ambition."*

### **Mitchel Craun – GPA: 3.96**

Mentor: Brad Snyder  
College of Science

## Ashish Francis wins 2009 Herz Gold Medal

Ashish Francis is the Herz Gold Medal recipient for 2009. Born in Bangalore, India, Ashish graduated from Coronado High School in Henderson, Nev. and enrolled at the University of Nevada, Reno in the fall of 2005. He majored in biochemistry and was a member of the Honor's Program. He has completed his undergraduate academic career with a cumulative grade point average of 4.00. Ashish has been admitted to the University of Nevada School of Medicine. He will begin his medical school career in the fall of 2009.

The Herz Gold Medal, the University's oldest and most prestigious award, is presented at each Commencement



Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas

*President Milton Glick stands with Herz family descendant Wilton Herz '55 (business administration), student body president Eli Reilly and 2009 Herz Gold Medalist Ashish Francis at the May 2009 Commencement ceremony.*

ceremony to the graduating senior with the highest grade point average. This gift was established in 1910 by brothers Richard and

Carl Otto Herz when this institution was only 36 years old.

—Pat McDonnell

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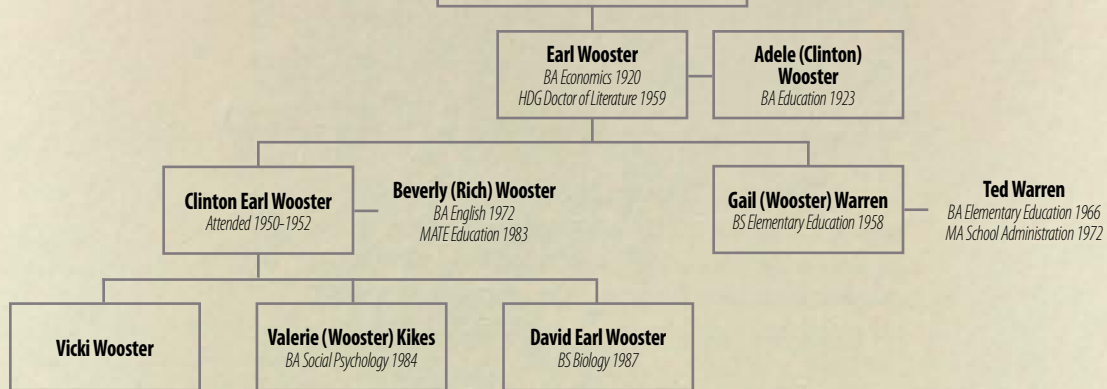
Earl Wooster in front of Morrill Hall. TOP RIGHT:  
Adele Wooster (on right) with basketball teammate.  
BOTTOM RIGHT: Earl and Adele camping circa 1960.

## A romance made in Nevada. A match made in Heaven.

When Earl Wooster came to the University of Nevada, he wanted more than ever to be a school administrator. Earl worked hard to fulfill that dream, and upon graduating, landed a job teaching at Fallon where he met his future wife, Adele Clinton. Almost immediately after falling for Adele, he became principal of Dayton High School in Dayton, Nevada, and proceeded to "burn up the highway" between Dayton and Fallon to spend as much time with Adele as possible. After they married, both Earl and Adele left for Wells, Nevada where he became the high school principal, and they enjoyed some of the happiest times of their lives.

---

## Wooster Family Tree



The Wooster family celebrating Christmas 1998.



Gail (Wooster) Warren and Ted Warren with daughter Karen (Warren) Marsh and her family.



How many University of Nevada, Reno alumni make up your family tree? Let us know, and you could all be featured in the next issue of *Nevada Silver & Blue*. For details, visit [www.unr.edu/alumni](http://www.unr.edu/alumni) or call 888.NV ALUMS.

**N** ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
FAMILY TREE CHALLENGE



## Remembering Friends

**John W. Malone, Jr.**, former professor, died Oct. 29, 2008 at the age of 78. Born in Connecticut on Oct. 5, 1930, he served as a cryptographer and communications specialist in the U.S. Air Force before commencing his university studies at the University of Connecticut where he received his bachelor's in business administration in 1956, followed by a masters in agricultural economics 1958. He went on to receive his doctorate in agricultural economics from Oklahoma State University in 1963. He joined the faculty at the University of Nevada, Reno in 1962, where he served eventually as acting associate dean and director of Agricultural Experiment Station, and professor and chairman of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. He later worked at Pennsylvania State University in 1975 as professor of agricultural economics and head of the department. He undertook extension and research activities in agricultural marketing in the Bahamas, Iran and Swaziland. In addition to being a past president of the Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association, he was a member of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, Western Agricultural Economics Association, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Society of Sigma Chi and Gamma Sigma Delta. Malone stepped down as head in 1984 to pursue his research and teaching interests in agricultural marketing. He retired in 1992.

**Robert Cicero Weems, Jr.**, founding dean of the College of Business Administration, died April 11, 2009. Born to Robert Cicero Weems and Susan Nunnery Vaughan, in Meridian, Miss., on July 22, 1910, Weems graduated from Shubuta High School in 1927 and enrolled at Mississippi A&M. He graduated with a business degree in 1931, obtained a master's of business administration from Northwestern University. Later he accepted a position as instructor at Mississippi State, where he developed expertise in stocks, bonds and investment trusts.

By age 29, Weems was acting dean of Mississippi State's School of Business and Industry, the youngest business dean in the nation. Weems also earned a doctorate in economics from Columbia University in 1951, and continued as business dean at Mississippi State until 1956 when he was recruited by the University of Nevada to lead its new College of Business

Administration. During his 21 years as dean, he presided over the college's growth and created and directed the Bureau of Business and Economic Research. Under his leadership, the college gained full accreditation in 1961, and its graduate program was accredited in 1971.

In 2000, at age 90, Weems became a published book author with *Business for Nevada* followed by three more books: *Still Living, Still Learning, Wealth Lit* and *My Shubuta*.

Weems lived since 1957 in the house a mile west of the University of Nevada, Reno campus that he and his wife, Frances, moved into after arriving in Reno. They met at Mississippi State, where Frances was one of the young professor's students. Their daughter, Susan, attended the University and graduated from the School of Medicine in 1983. In 2005, Frances passed, but Weems remained active.

In 2004 he was named a Distinguished Nevadan by the state's university system board of regents. In 2006, as founding dean and dean emeritus, he attended festivities marking the 50th anniversary of the College of Business Administration.

Weems was preceded in death by sisters Alice and Susan. He is survived by his daughter, Susan (Craig), and grandchildren, Eric, Kevin and Sarah. He is also survived by a sister, Mary. Weems will always be remembered as a well-regarded expert on finance and investing, and a devoted husband, father and grandfather.

**Leonard Alton Anker '43** (agriculture) passed away on Sept. 22, 2008 at the age of 87. He was a third generation Nevadan born in Lovelock on June 13, 1921 to James Phillip and Myrtle (Talcott) Anker. Leonard grew up on the family ranch in Lovelock and graduated from Pershing County High School. He attended the University of Nevada and received a bachelor's in agriculture. Two days following graduation, Leonard entered the Army and became a commissioned officer. He was sent to England to join the American 29th Infantry Division and on June 6, 1944, led a platoon on Omaha Beach on D-Day. For his service, Lt. General Omar N. Bradley presented Leonard with the Distinguished Service Cross, the second highest U.S. medal for valor. During his service, Leonard was also decorated with three Purple Hearts and three Bronze Stars. Captain Anker was honorably discharged in May of 1946.

Following the war, Leonard married his college sweetheart, Frances Helen Burke, on June 10, 1946. He worked for the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Service in Reno for a short time and then transferred to the Minden office. Within a few years, Leonard joined the USDA Soil Conservation Service and spent many years working with Carson Valley ranchers. He retired from general service in 1975 and continued on to be a successful businessman and rancher. Leonard served on the Gardnerville Town Water Board for 10 years and on the Minden-Gardnerville Sanitation Board for 20 years. He was a life-long member of Carson Valley Masonic Lodge #33 and belonged to numerous other service organizations, including Kiwanis, Rotary, 20-30 Club and Toastmasters.

Leonard is survived by his loving wife of 62 years and his children: daughters, Beverly (Mark), Shirley and Claudia (Duncan); and son, Alton (Sue). He is also survived by a sister, Phyllis; eight grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; numerous cousins and many good friends. His parents and three brothers, Peter, Stanley and Norman, preceded him in death.

**Erich Helfert '54** (business administration) died March 21, 2009. Erich, of San Mateo, Calif., was born in the Sudetenland May 29, 1932. He lived there through World War II and in the immediate aftermath until 1950 when he moved to the United States with his mother. He embarked on a highly successful academic and business career. He received an MBA and doctorate from Harvard Business School and taught as part of the finance faculty.

A management career at Crown Zellerbach Corporation in San Francisco followed, where he rose to vice president of corporate planning. Upon leaving Crown Zellerbach, he was engaged in senior level consulting with many well-known companies. Later he became co-founder and chairman of Modernsoft, Inc., creating an advanced financial modeling software program. His extensive writing career included the best-selling financial management book *Techniques of Financial Analysis*. This book appeared in 11 editions, was translated into 10 languages and sold more than 500,000



Robert Cicero Weems, Jr.

copies. He also wrote an autobiographical novel *Valley of the Shadow*, which depicted his family's experience during the tragic depopulation of the Sudetenland by Czechoslovakia. The book contributed to a deeper understanding of one of World War II's lesser-recorded consequences. He called for forgiveness and breaking the unending cycle of retribution. Erich was a guest lecturer at leading universities, made presentations at the Commonwealth and Bohemian clubs, and was a regular speaker at the San Francisco Literary Society. He was an active member of the Cogers, an Anglo-American debating society at the University Club in San Francisco. In 1983, he married Anne Langley, a native of England and a gifted artist and flower designer. He is survived by Anne, whom he affectionately referred to as "Queen Anne," her two daughters, Claire and Amanda, and a lively grandson, Alexander.

**Phyllis Kaiser '78** (social services corrections) died Feb. 28, 2009. Phyllis graduated from Las Vegas High School at the age of 15. She graduated from Stephens College in Columbia, Mo. with an associate's degree in arts in 1943. She became a nurse cadet and graduated from the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing in 1946. She then graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1978.

Phyllis worked as a registered nurse first in Baltimore, Md. with the public health service, then at Washoe Medical Center and the Veteran's Administration

Hospital in Reno. She then worked for Headstart at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, and later with the Gyesis Program for pregnant teenagers at the YWCA. She served eight years as the director of Community Welfare, a nonprofit agency that provided food, lodging and fuel to those in need. From 1975-1985 Phyllis served as the Nevada state director of refugee resettlement for Church World Service. In her retirement she wrote voluminous poems and was a member of the National Association of American Pen Women.

In her lifetime she received various awards for her amazing volunteer efforts including: the Committee to Aid Abused Women's Hannah Humanitarian Award (1984), Sertoma District Award for Service to Mankind (1985), City of Sparks Commendation For Improving Human Services (1985), Reno Optimist Club Service Club Person of the Year (1986), Distinguished Nevadan, Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents (1990) and The National Conference of Christians and Jews Humanitarian Award (1991).

Phyllis was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Pearl, as well as her husband, John. She was also preceded in death by her sons Michael, John and Kha. Surviving are her sister, Betty, and nephew, Jim. Also surviving are sons Phillip (Susan) and Gia (Van) and daughters, Joni (Tom), Janell (Denzel) and Dawn Joan (Sam). Surviving grandchildren include, Rachel, Stefan, Nathan, Michael, Daniel, Karla, Terry, Greg, Sheri and Randy.

**Chuck Jack '61** (civil engineering) died Jan. 5, 2009 at age 75. Chuck was born on Aug. 1, 1933 in Crooked Lake, Ind. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree in engineering from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1961. He was also in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. Chuck would later work as a civil engineer with the City of Los Angeles for 32 years.

From the City of Angels came his mentor, Al Liff, who convinced Chuck to begin working for the city as an assistant engineer in sewer design in the East San Fernando Valley, Calif. After seven years of learning and accomplishment with East San Fernando Valley, Chuck was promoted to full civil engineer, where in 1968 he moved to street design. Chuck was key in the effort to help rebuild East San Fernando Valley streets after the 1971 and 1973 earthquakes.

He enjoyed his life, knowing that he "struck gold" because of his contributions to his family and his career. He was a devoted traveler for all his years, most recently during retirement, journeying to Europe and touring the United States in his 5th-wheel trailer with his wife.

Chuck is survived by his wife of 54 years, Dorothy, daughter Linda (Dennis), brothers Doug (Deanne), Steve (Clara); sister Sharon; and two grandchildren, Evan (Amanda), and Leah.

#### LOOK ONLINE

For the full text of Remembering Friends, visit: [www.unr.edu/silverandblue](http://www.unr.edu/silverandblue)

## University friend and philanthropist Helen Rutherford dies at 99

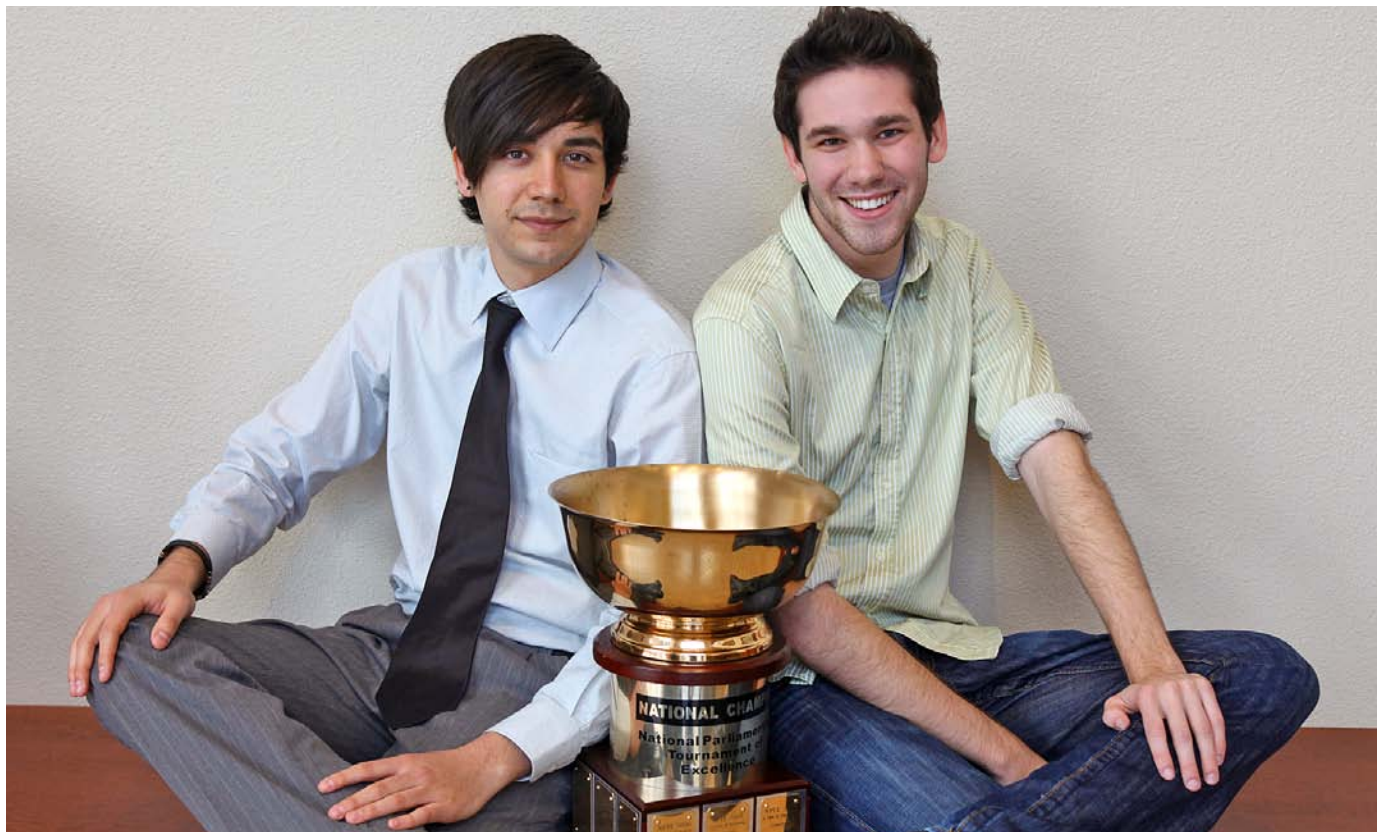
Long time University of Nevada, Reno friend and supporter Helen Rutherford passed away on May 13. Helen was born on June 6, 1909, and grew up in Ely, Nev., where she attended White Pine County High School. She graduated from Healds College in Oakland, Calif. in 1930 and then worked for the U.S. Forest Service in Ely. During World War II Helen worked for the Department of the Navy at the Hawthorne ammunition depot while her husband served as a Marine Corps pharmacist. After the war, Helen moved to Reno, joining the

team that opened the Nevada Bank of Commerce in 1949. She became the first woman named to the position of vice president in Nevada banking in 1961. She later joined Valley Bank of Nevada as a senior vice president and loan officer. Helen established an endowed scholarship fund for Nevada nursing students in 1991, which has assisted more than 120 nursing students over the past 18 years. Helen was awarded the Distinguished Nevadan designation in 1996 by the Board of Regents.



*Helen Rutherford (center) at the 2006 Nursing Convocation surrounded by some of the many students she helped through her scholarship program in the Orvis School of Nursing.*





## Nevada's Dynamic Duo

*Nevada students win two national debate crowns in one season*

In the annals of modern collegiate parliamentary debate, few have ever done what University of Nevada, Reno debate team members David Pena '09 and Max Alderman did on Monday, March 30 when they captured first place in the National Parliamentary Debate Association Championship Tournament in Stockton, Calif.

Pena and Alderman not only defeated competitors from 233 teams for first place, they also become only the third team in the history of collegiate parliamentary debate to win the sport's two most prestigious prizes in the same season. A week earlier, Pena and Alderman took first place at the National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence in Berkeley, Calif.

Pena, who graduated in May with a double major in philosophy and women's studies, was also named the Tournament of Excellence's

Top Speaker. Alderman, a junior double major in philosophy and political science from Reno, earned second speaker honors in that contest.

According to Phil Sharp, director of Nevada's debate program, the last victory further underscored Pena and Alderman's unique abilities. Pena and Alderman, who used a philosophy-based approach to win the Tournament of Excellence in Berkeley, used a much more topic- and argument-based tack in winning the Championship Tournament in Stockton.

"With 233 teams, instead of 64 (at the Tournament of Excellence), the tournament required much more adaptation to the audience," Sharp said. "It really showed David and Max's versatility. In Stockton, they debated the topic and engaged in a completely different way.

"The same team winning both

*National debate champions David Pena '09 and Max Alderman, Class of 2010, followed different paths before teaming to bring the University two national championships in debate.*

championships doesn't happen very often, because often different sets of skills are required. To back up one championship with a similar performance is very impressive."

### Different paths

Both teammates followed different paths in winning the national championships.

"It's definitely a place of privilege to be in," Pena said of moving to the United States from his native Mexico at age 15 without knowing the English language. "It is," he added, "exciting to look back at where my past decisions have taken me."

Alderman, a National Merit Scholar from Reno High School, didn't consider himself to be championship debate material when he took up the activity. At least not in the beginning, when he went out for debate as a sophomore at Reno High, only at the urging of a classmate.

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"Cierra Iveson, who is one of my best friends in the world, talked me into it," Alderman said with a smile. "I remember thinking, 'But I'm a choir kid ... I can't do debate.'"

Former Nevada coach Debbie Seltzer-Kelly, now a professor at former champion school Southern Illinois wrote in an email, "I've been getting emailed congratulations from coaches and competitors all over the country. David and Max have been truly outstanding all season, and they are also terrific representatives for UNR; they are well-liked, and the debate community sees this victory as well-deserved."

Sharp, who helped his team through a grueling week-long, 13-hour-a-day preparation during spring break leading up to the first tournament, said: "You have to have such a perfect confluence sometimes to win a championship. You have to have the right judges, the right topics and the right opponent ... and you need to execute. I had faith in David and Max, that they had done all the work and that they were prepared."

For Sharp, it wasn't surprising that Pena and Alderman performed so well with their backs against the wall.

"Max and David were motivated all year," said Sharp, who admitted that the pressure was enough for him to have to watch much of the action at the Tournament of Excellence offstage, through a crack in a hallway door. "We knew there were favored teams, and Max and David had their arguments ready for all of them. They weren't afraid of any of them."

"It's like some script for a Hollywood story," Sharp added, with no hint of exaggeration.

Two days after he turned 15, Pena moved from Guadalajara, Mexico, to the town of Overton, Nev., with his family. His parents, Juan and Lidia Ochoa, who own a body shop in Overton, knew their son was an uncommonly intelligent and confident young man, the type of person who can quickly take possession of mounds of complex information and easily tie it to the great philosophical tenets of our time.

As it turned out, such an approach was an essential part of the team's success. Instead of downloading fact after fact after fact upon the judges, Pena and Alderman chose this season to tie many of their arguments to more philosophical and theoretical approaches

that made many of their arguments seem more personal and creative. For instance, while debating about the European Union's involvement in the Gaza conflict and the regulation of the trading of financial options, they used philosophers and theorists such as Jacques Derrida, Edward Said and Slavoj Zizek to question underlying assumptions about the topics.

"We try to turn the tables and frame the debates in ways that benefit us," said Pena.

Although, as Alderman admitted, it wasn't as easy as it looked: "Our opponents at the Tournament of Excellence were some of the most brilliant people I've ever met. They were scary-good. I'm not going to lie to you. My stomach was going crazy. It was very nerve-wracking for me. David is always so calm about everything. He's always saying, 'Max, just chill out.'"

## A natural pairing

Nervous stomach aside, Alderman also brought several undeniable strengths to the pairing. He grew up on the Nevada campus. His father, Stuart, is a computer programmer and his mother, Dana Edberg, is a longtime College of Business professor.

He attended preschool on campus, and can remember more than a few days romping up and down the shaky stairs of the old Getchell Library as a child. In conversation with Alderman, it quickly becomes apparent that he treats everyone around him with gentleness, good humor and a genuine, unfeigned courtesy and engagement. He is the type of young man equally at home with great ideas and great piles of information in need of an intellectual home. The love of language, life and of his sport all seem to flow with a good-natured ease from him.

He is quick to give praise to his teammate, Pena, and what his steady influence has meant to the success of the season.

"David was a junior when I came in (and joined Nevada as a freshman)," Alderman said. "We did a lot of partnership pairings (on the Nevada team, which, by the way, has several other top-rated collegiate debaters) and when David and I got together, we just clicked.

"He's one of the most brilliant people I've ever met. He's going to do such amazing things."

Pena noted: "Max has been the best partner

a person could ever have. He's such an unbelievably talented person. He has a bright future ahead of him."

## Understanding their place

Sharp, who has seen the two young men form a truly historic partnership, said the two could not be more similar, yet more different.

"They both have this amazing passion for debate," he said. "They are willing to work so hard at what they do. They are both so talented, and I knew that because of their talent level, I could challenge them to say that a national championship was something they could get."

The coach, soft-spoken and thoughtful, also could see that both possessed an intangible quality central to success in the activity. They both seemed to have an innate understanding of their place in debate. Sharp said that Pena and Alderman possess the centrifugal ability to take center stage and make the debate seem to hinge on their every move, their every gesture, their every word. Theirs is a thorough faith in their knowledge, skills, and perhaps most importantly, their instincts in a sport where concepts and topics and facts can spring forth at the speed of a bolt of a lightning.

"It's a pretty remarkable story," Sharp said. "David didn't know English until he was 15. He grew up in Mexico. His story is one of constantly grinding toward being the best. Max, from the minute he started the activity, has won practically every award there is. He has boxes and boxes of trophies at home, all across the spectrum of debate."

The coach paused, remembering the final moments of the team's performance in Berkeley.

"When Max's speech ended, there was a 30-second silence in the room," he said, as with any cherished memory, his words taking on a laconic significance. "It took the audience a while to process what they had heard ... and then ... the place erupted. People were jumping out of their seats ... and their cheering was so loud ... it was a huge moment.

"David and Max did everything perfectly. You couldn't have asked for anything more." ■



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**Time:** 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
**Where:** Coconut Bowl  
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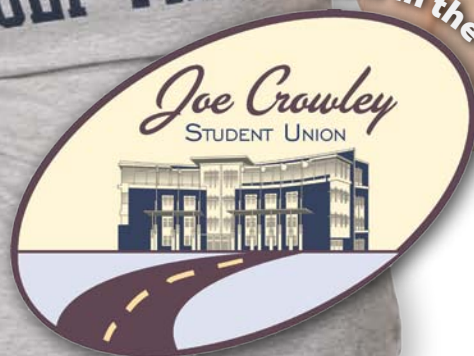
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## New book on ancient people of the Great Basin

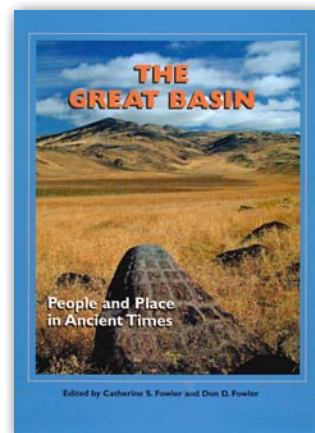
First-time visitors often perceive the Great Basin as a vast sagebrush sea, a monotonous and barren landscape. But for the ancient people who lived there, this sprawling land was full of beauty and rich resources. In *The Great Basin: People and Place in Ancient Times* (School for Advanced Research Press: October 2008), edited by Catherine “Kay” and Don Fowler, emeriti professors of anthropology, leading archeologists discuss the survival skills of the region’s ancient residents, from setting a deadfall and running a trout line in desert waters to chain-linking a hundred rabbit skins into a winter blanket. Their decorated baskets and hats, headdresses and sandals, duck decoys and antelope traps, some 10,000

years old, tell the history of resourceful, mobile people who knew the region intimately, adapted to drastic changes in climate, and left their mark upon the land in rock art and equipment caches.

The authors highlight the ingenious solutions people devised to sustain themselves in a difficult environment. The Great Basin is a semiarid and often harsh land, but one with life-giving oases. As the weather fluctuated from year to year, and the climate from decade to decade or even from one millennium to the next, the availability of water, plants, and animals also fluctuated. Only people who learned the land intimately and could read the many signs of its changing moods were

successful.

The evidence of their success is often subtle and difficult to interpret from the few and fragile remains left behind for archaeologists to discover. These ancient fragments of food and baskets, hats and hunting decoys, traps and rock art and the lifeways they reflect are the subject of this well-illustrated book. (See more on Don and Kay Fowler on page 64.)



Summer Session 2009 presents

## Summer Concerts and Watermelon on the Quad!

Voted one of *Reno Gazette-Journal's* “Best Family Outings” — free Watermelon Wednesday concerts on the Quad are fun for all ages. Bring a blanket and a picnic dinner and join us from 6-8 p.m. on these Wednesdays:

**July 1: Sol’Jibe**

**July 8: DG KICKS**

**July 15: Reno Irish Dance Company**

**July 22: Disney (Reno Municipal Band)**

**July 29: Guitar Woody and the Boilers**

**Aug. 5: Sol’Jibe**

Food will be available for purchase.

For more information visit [www.summersession.unr.edu](http://www.summersession.unr.edu).



## Shine with us this summer!



Concerts are presented by Summer Session in partnership with the Native American Alumni Chapter, COBAA, Alumni and Friends of the Reynolds School, and the Young Alumni Chapter.

The University of Nevada, Reno is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.  
Photos by Sarah Purdy, Produced by Extended Studies Marketing Dept., 5/09.



Extended Studies  
University of Nevada, Reno



*Catherine (Kay) S. Fowler, University Foundation Professor of Anthropology, Emerita, and Don D. Fowler, Mamie Kleberg Professor Distinguished Professor of Historic Preservation and Anthropology, Emeritus, came to the University of Nevada in 1964. They grew up in Ogden, Utah but met at the University of Utah in 1961 and were married in 1963. They taught at Nevada from 1964 until their retirements (Kay 2007, Don 2005). Kay's specialties are ethnography and languages of Great Basin Indian peoples, as well native uses of plants, and American Indian art. Don is an archaeologist, historian of American anthropology, and founded and directed the University's Historic Preservation Program from 1978 to 2005. They have written and edited many scholarly works individually and together (some 200 total), including the new (2008) *The Great Basin. People and Place in Ancient Times*. (See story on page 63.)*

## What is your fondest memory from your days at the University of Nevada, Reno?

Our fondest memories are watching our students over the years walk across the stage at commencement, shake hands with the president, and receive their degrees. Between us we supervised nearly 50 master's theses and doctoral dissertations. Those students all went on to distinguished careers. We taught many hundreds of undergraduate students over the years. By the late 1980s we began hearing from undergraduate students that, "my parent (insert proper gender term here) took your class in (insert any one of a dozen classes here)..." We have so far escaped hearing "my grandparent(s) took your class in ..."

Other fond memories are of our many fine colleagues at the University. The faculty is outstanding in so many ways, and are noted for their dedication to the institution, state and students. Several are among our best friends. One particular friend was Molly Flagg Knudtsen, regent extraordinaire and renaissance woman. She was a driving force in getting the anthropology department established. In the 1960s, many universities would not hire married couples—especially



Photo by Eugene M. Hartori

*Kay Fowler is currently serving her third three-year term as a trustee of the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution. Both Kay and her husband, Don, are on the board of the local Nevada Rock Art Foundation where Don served as founding president.*

those in the same field. Molly told us "We don't believe in that, we'll take you both."

## What have you done that you're most proud of?

We are very proud of having been named University Foundation Professors (Kay 1991-94, Don 1988-91), and University of Nevada, Reno Outstanding Researcher of the Year (Kay 1995, Don 2003).

Kay is most proud of work through the years that has been of at least some help to the Great Basin's Native peoples. This includes work on the Timbisha Shoshone's land restoration project, successfully completed in 2000 with the return of some 6,000 acres to them, and on their continuing project to reintroduce indigenous management of natural resources into Death Valley National Park. Also included is work over many years with various Native language programs toward restoration of indigenous languages in their communities.

Don is most proud of an innovative and award-winning Continuing Education Program in Heritage Resources Management,

which he and then dean of Continuing Education, Neal Ferguson, created in 1987. The program brought national and international recognition to the University and became the model for current ongoing professional development programs nationwide.

## What advice would you give someone just starting out after college?

To students who are starting out, no matter what their majors and long term goals may be, we advise them to take advantage of the outstanding programs in the humanities and social sciences in the College of Liberal Arts. There are excellent nationally and internationally recognized faculty members in anthropology, history, art, music, English, the Core Humanities Program, philosophy, political science, and other departments. Finally, and most importantly, learn how to write, and write well. No matter what your career path, good writing skills are absolutely essential to your success.

*Don Fowler*  
*Kay Fowler*



## NV Energy invests in sustainability initiative

NV Energy has added a major commitment to the University of Nevada, Reno's Renewable Energy Program and sustainability initiative. The company pledged \$500,000 over two years for programmatic support. This \$500,000 commitment brings NV Energy's investment in renewable energy at the University to \$1 million from 2007 to 2011.

The University's renewable energy program and sustainability initiative are a joint collaboration among all the colleges at Nevada, but particularly Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources; Business; Engineering and Science. This collaboration also includes partnerships with the Desert Research Institute, UNLV and Truckee Meadows Community College.

"The NV Energy gift will be used to support the development of competitiveness in the power program in electrical and biomedical engineering," says Manos Maragakis, dean of the College of Engineering. "This program provides the technical expertise required to address issues related to the nation's power distribution grid, which is a very important aspect for developing practical renewable energy solutions. It will also be used to assist with the development

of a renewable energy center and a broad sustainability collaborative at the University, which can then partner with other Nevada System of Higher Education Institutions."

"Our University has expertise that makes it well qualified to address these issues and improve the quality of lives for the residents of our state, the nation and the world," Maragakis adds. "Collaboration with other NSHE institutions will strengthen our capabilities and achievements. Some of the gift funds will be used to strengthen the competitiveness of our young faculty and students in renewable energy, enhance our educational programs in this area and promote the use of the Redfield Campus in south Reno."

With the help of community partners like NV Energy, the University will continue to be a showpiece of environmental leadership by demonstrating smart, sensible and creative actions and research that promote the vision of sustainability.

*For more information on supporting renewable energy and sustainability efforts at the University of Nevada, Reno, please contact Melanie Perish, director of development for the College of Engineering, at (775) 784-6433 or [mperish@unr.edu](mailto:mperish@unr.edu).*



*NV Energy and the Nell J. Redfield Foundation are partners working with the University of Nevada, Reno and other NSHE institutions in teaching, research and outreach critical to renewable energy and sustainability. ABOVE: Mary Simmons, vice president of external affairs at NV Energy, Manos Maragakis, dean of the College of Engineering, Milton Glick, University president, Marc Johnson, University provost, and Gerald Smith, trustee of the Nell J. Redfield Foundation.*



University of Nevada, Reno  
Foundation



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# Top 5 Reasons

Why Attending the 28th Annual University of Nevada, Reno Foundation Banquet  
**is Good for your Health:**

**Thursday**  
**Sept. 24, 2009**

**John Ascuaga's Nugget**  
**6 p.m. – Reception**  
**7 p.m. – Dinner**



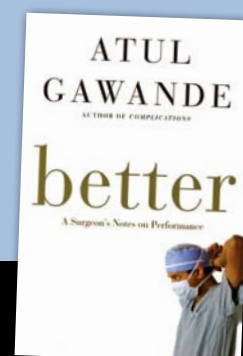
**5** This year's speaker is renowned general surgeon Atul Gawande, who served as the senior health policy advisor to President Clinton and is the director of the World Health Organization's Global Challenge for Safer Surgical Care.

**4** Dr. Gawande is not only a talented speaker, but a *New York Times* best-selling author who makes frequent contributions to the *New Yorker*.

**3** Dr. Gawande is one of the most influential voices on healthcare reform in America today. He received the MacArthur Fellowship, known as the "genius prize" for the fresh and unique perspective of his written work and his imaginative approach to finding ways to improve surgical practice.

**2** The University's focus on healthcare is aligned with the nation's need to address a shortage of medical workers. The Center for Molecular Medicine, currently under construction, will provide research facilities and house the Whittemore Peterson Institute for Neuro-Immune Disease. The proposed Health Sciences Building will expand nursing and medical school enrollment.

**1** The Foundation Banquet is the University's largest fundraiser, supporting the needs of our students and their future.



Come help celebrate the University of Nevada School of Medicine's 40th Anniversary! Dr. Gawande's insights from his book *Better: A Surgeon's Notes on Performance* are sure to captivate an audience as he talks about the high stakes challenges he faces as a surgeon and explores the universal struggle to perform well—what it takes to excel in any area of human endeavor.

Tickets are \$200 each or \$2,000 for a table. Event sponsorships are also available. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Jeanne Corbit at (775) 784-4831 or [jcorbit@unr.edu](mailto:jcorbit@unr.edu).

